

Lake County, Ohio
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT #2 TO THE PROGRAM YEAR 2019 ACTION PLAN
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

I. Summary

- Jurisdiction: Lake County, Ohio
- Grant Number Associated with Amendment: B-19-UC-39-0007 (CDBG)
- Contact Person for Amendment: David Radachy, Director, Lake County Planning and Community Development; 105 Main Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077; Phone (440) 350-2740; Email david.radachy@lakecountyohio.gov
- The Amendment #2 is Submitted by: The Board of Lake County Commissioners, John R. Hamercheck, President of the Board; 105 Main Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077

Lake County Planning and Community Development administers Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds received on an annual basis from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds are made available to carry out a variety of housing, community, and economic development activities based on an Annual Action Plan approved by the Lake County Commissioners. The Lake County Board of Commissioners announces the proposed substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan/2019 Annual Action Plan for projects to be funded with a special allocation to this jurisdiction to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19). This allocation was authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136. The CARES Act made available Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds. This jurisdiction's allocation of round 3 funds is \$720,275.

The Planning and Community Development office is asking the Lake County Board of Commissioners approval to allocate \$720,275 of available funds for the purpose of funding new grant projects and activities described within Section III of this document.

II. Process Review

The funds received annually from HUD are subject to the HUD Consolidated Plan regulations found at 24 CFR Part 91, which requires the County to prepare a five-year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports. The regulations require Citizen Participation as part of the development and approval of these documents.

Citizen Participation is governed by the Citizen Participation Plan, which is reflective of the Part 91 regulations. According to the County's current adopted Citizen Participation Plan, changes to the Action Plan are considered "Substantial Amendments" when any of the following occurs (Section F):

- addition of new resources or the use of greater than 20% of the annual allocation of either CDBG or HOME Program,
- or a significant change (50%) in the scope, outcome or number of beneficiaries of an approved project level for which funds have already been approved by HUD.

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Any qualifying proposed substantial amendments will be publicized through a public notice in the local newspaper. After approval by the Commissioners, a period of thirty days will be provided to receive public comments on any qualifying proposed substantial amendments before the amendment is sent to HUD for review and approval. HUD approval is required before an amendment can be implemented. The County will consider any comments submitted orally, in writing or in electronic form in preparing the substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan. Any comments or view of citizens received in writing or orally shall be considered. A summary of the comment or view will be attached to the substantial amendment upon submission to HUD.

The CARES Act adds additional flexibility for both the CDBG-CV grant and, in some cases, for the annual FY2020 CDBG grants in these unprecedented times. The public comment period is reduced to not less than 5 days, grantees may use virtual public hearings when necessary for public health reasons, the public service cap is suspended during the emergency, and States and local governments may reimburse costs of eligible activities incurred for pandemic response regardless of the date.

III. Proposed Consolidated Plan/2019 Action Plan Amendment (Substantial Amendment #2)

Proposed use of funds by project & activity:

Assistance to Businesses, including Special Economic Development Assistance, Amount: \$200,000.00

Activities may include Provision of assistance to private, for profit entities, when appropriate to carry out an economic development project: Avoid job loss caused by business closures related to social distancing by providing short-term working capital assistance to small businesses to enable retention of jobs held by low- and moderate-income persons; Provision of assistance to microenterprises: Provide technical assistance, grants, loans, and other financial assistance to establish, stabilize, and expand microenterprises.

Public Services to Support Infectious Disease Response, Amount: \$250,000

Activities may include Provision of new or quantifiable increase of public services that prevent and respond to the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19); services may include health services, employment services, emergency mortgage payments, emergency rental payments, food delivery services, homeless assistance, information and referral services, training services for healthcare workers and first responders, expanded internet to low- and moderate-income populations including mobile hot spots, and other services to support infectious disease response.

Buildings and Improvements, Including Public Facilities, Amount: \$126,220

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Activities may include the following where activities prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19); rehabilitation of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance); acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation of public works, facilities, and site or other improvements.

Program Administration, Amount: \$144,055

Planning and program administrative costs of CDBG-CV grants.

These changes constitute a substantial amendment because there is a significant change in the scope, outcome and/or number of beneficiaries of an approved project level for which funds have already been approved. Additionally, in HUD Memorandum from John Gibbs, Acting Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, *CARES ACT Flexibility for CDBG Funds Used to Support Coronavirus Response and plan amendment waiver*, grantees are instructed to proceed with all amendments and plans under the new provisions outlined in the memo by adding the CDBG-CV allocation in their plans as an available resource for the year. Lake County's Citizen Participation Plan was updated and revised by Resolution on April 30, 2020 to allow for the new flexibilities.

Economic Development is identified in the existing approved Consolidated Plan (2017 – 2021) as a priority need (SP-25), "Provide increased economic development opportunities in the jurisdiction; offer gap financing to businesses that will comply with job creation requirements." Additionally, economic development is an identified category under the "Goals" section of the Consolidated Plan (SP-45), "Promote a regionally coordinated economic development planning strategy, which includes business, non-profits, officials from the County and its communities, officials from outside the County, and area residents that identifies ways to create and maintain employment in lower to middle income sectors of the workforce."

Social Services Support is identified in the existing approved Consolidated Plan as a priority need (SP-25), "Support essential services such as, employment training, health care, and mental health." Additionally, supportive services is an identified category under the "Goals" section of the Consolidated Plan (SP-45), "Provide assistance to nonprofit organizations that provide needed supportive services to low/mod income persons living in the community, including but not limited to job training, senior services, health care, and homeless prevention."

Public facilities improvements is identified in the existing approved Consolidated Plan as a high priority need (SP-25). "Provide improvements to local facilities which benefit the public in low-income block groups and which improve accessibility in all areas of the jurisdiction." Additionally, suitable living environment is an identified category under the "Goals" section of the Consolidated Plan (SP-45), "Allocate CDBG resources to support public facility improvement activities that will assist with addressing the problem of aging and insufficient facilities in residential areas that have high concentrations of low-to-moderate income households."

IV. Citizen Participation

In accordance with Lake County's Citizen Participation Plan, a public notice was published in the News-Herald newspaper on Monday, November 30, 2020 notifying the public of this Substantial Amendment and of the opportunity to submit written comments to the Lake County Planning and Community Development office (LC P&CD) or to provide oral comments during the Public Hearing on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at the Lake County Commissioner's Chambers and will be broadcast live via YouTube an allows questions in real time with answers coming from the Planning and Community Development staff hosting the meeting. Public comments were received from November 30, 2020 to January 4, 2021.

A copy of the Public Notice is included as Attachment A. Proof of Publication of the Public Notice will be included as Attachment B to this Substantial Amendment document in the final transmittal to HUD.

The Public Notice and Substantial Amendment Document were also posted online at <http://www.lakecountyohio.gov/planningcommissioner/home.aspx> and made available at the following locations:

- Lake County Planning and Community Development office, 105 Main Street, Painesville, OH
- Lake County Administrative Building, 105 Main Street, Painesville, OH

Written comments received by LC P&CD will be attached and any oral testimony received during the Public Hearing will be summarized, included as Attachment D and submitted to HUD with the County's transmittal of the Substantial Amendment to the Action Plan.

V. List of Attachments

Attachment A:	Public Notice
Attachment B:	Proof of Publication of the Public Notice
Attachment C:	Local Approval of Substantial Amendment
Attachment D:	Summary of Public Comments Received
Attachment E:	SF 424's, 242D's and Certifications

ATTACHMENT A

**LAKE COUNTY OHIO
CDBG FEDERAL GRANTS PROGRAM
COMBINED NOTICE
NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION TO BE TAKEN RESPECTING PROPOSED
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT #2 TO THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN/2019
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Lake County Board of Commissioners announces the proposed substantial amendment #2 to the Consolidated Plan/2019 Annual Action Plan for the following Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) projects to be funded with a special allocation to this jurisdiction to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19). This allocation was authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136. The CARES Act made available Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds. This jurisdiction's allocation is \$720,275.

A. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program proposed use of funds by project & activity:

Assistance to Businesses, including Special Economic Development Assistance, Amount: \$200,000.00

Activities may include Provision of assistance to private, for profit entities, when appropriate to carry out an economic development project: Avoid job loss caused by business closures related to social distancing by providing short-term working capital assistance to small businesses to enable retention of jobs held by low- and moderate-income persons; Provision of assistance to microenterprises: Provide technical assistance, grants, loans, and other financial assistance to establish, stabilize, and expand microenterprises.

Public Services to Support Infectious Disease Response, Amount: \$250,000

Activities may include Provision of new or quantifiable increase of public services that prevent and respond to the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19); services may include health services, employment services, emergency mortgage payments, emergency rental payments, food delivery services, homeless assistance, information and referral services, training services for healthcare workers and first responders, expanded internet to low- and moderate-income populations including mobile hot spots, and other services to support infectious disease response.

Buildings and Improvements, Including Public Facilities, Amount: \$126,220

Activities may include the following where activities prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19); rehabilitation of buildings and improvements (including

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interim assistance); acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation of public works, facilities, and site or other improvements.

Program Administration, Amount: \$144,055

Planning and program administrative costs of CDBG-CV grants.

B. Public Hearing: Thursday, December 10, 2020, 1:00 pm.

The Board of Lake County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 10, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be live broadcast via <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/commissioners/Commissioners-Live-Stream> a quick link to the livestream YouTube channel can be accessed by going to the homepage of the Lake County website and scrolling down to the last quick links on the right “Commissioners Live Stream.” This is a stream that is only live when meetings are in session. This virtual public hearing allows questions in real time, with answers coming from the P&CD staff hosting the public hearing: Questions or comments may be submitted by email to David.Radachy@lakecountyohio.gov. The purpose of this public hearing will be to receive citizen comments prior to the submission of the Substantial Amendment #2 to HUD. A copy of the draft Substantial Amendment #2 to the Consolidated Plan/2019 Annual Action Plan will be available for public review, on the Planning & Community Development website <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/pdc/> and a physical copy is available at 105 Main Street, Painesville, Ohio, Planning Outbox, during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday), from Monday, November 30, 2020 to Monday, January 4, 2021.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners will receive comments regarding the Substantial Amendment #2 until 4:30 pm Monday, January 4, 2021. Written comments should be addressed to Mr. David Radachy, Director, Lake County Planning & Community Development Office, 105 Main St., Painesville, Ohio 44077.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

John R. Hamercheck, Commissioner President

Ron Young, Commissioner Vice President

Jerry C. Cirino, Commissioner

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ATTACHMENT C

Sig File 11-5-20



LAKE COUNTY PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
105 Main St., Painesville, OH 44077 PH: 440.350.2740 FX: 440.350.2606
lakecountyohio.gov/planning planning@lakecountyohio.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: BCC
CC: Jason Boyd, David Radachy, Michael Matas, Donna Tyson
FROM: Rhea Benton
DATE: November 5, 2020
RE: CDBG-CV Action Plan (FY-19) 2nd Substantial Amendment (Third Round CDBG-CV)

RECEIVED
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PLANNING
LAKE CO., OHIO

Commissioners,

Please consider the proposed timeline and allocation plan for the special allocation Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV). The third-round allocation is \$720,275.

HUD requires a Substantial Amendment to Lake County's FY-19 Annual Action Plan to add CDBG-CV funds to the budget and allocate at a project-level.

The amendment process will proceed as follows:

- 11/12/20: Commissioners approve allocation plan for CDBG-CV funds (project-level, not specific activities)
- 11/16/20: Publish public notice including list of new projects to be funded with CDBG-CV
- 11/24/20: Public Hearing/30-day public comment period through 12/17/20
- 01/01/21: Amendment submitted to HUD after the CAPER (end of the year report) is completed. RB to send out RFP's and gather proposals for specific activities.
- 01/15/21: HUD approves amendment...Resolution approved by BCC authorizing agreements and activities may be implemented

Please consider the attached allocation plan for the CDBG-CV funds.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at ext. 12310.

Thank you,
RB

Commissioner
of
Lake County, Ohio
Attest

APPROVED

James R. Hanks
PRESIDENT

J. J. Bell
CLERK 11-12-20

Planning Commission, Grants, Township & Municipal Planning, Coastal Plans, Census Affiliate

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ATTACHMENT D

Two comments were received during the public hearing via email. Both comments were general questions regarding the funds, including a question about what type of agencies may apply for the funds and when the funds would be available. Both questions were answered via email by the grant administration staff.

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ATTACHMENT E

Ten (10) pages of SF-424, SF-424D and certification forms are attached to this document.