



PUBLIC NOTICE
EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
AMENDMENT TO THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

The City is re-advertising to comply with the HUD regulations and allow a 30-day comment period. The additional time to receive public comment for the amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan (City FY 2020) will begin on December 3, 2022, and end on December 15, 2022. By this notice, the City of Richmond announces the availability of the Amended 2019 Annual Action Plan budget, which was approved by the City Council on November 7, 2022. This additional time is to allow the public an opportunity to comment on the use of federal funding to support the renovation and operations of the Inclement Weather Shelters. The original comment period was from October 17, 2022-November 4, 2022.

On Monday, November 7, at 6:00 p.m. the Richmond City Council held a public hearing on an amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan and FY 2019-2020 budget for Federal Entitlement and CARES Act funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic for the Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 (CDBG-CV) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). No public comments were provided or given at the public hearing.

The City has been the recipient of CDBG funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) since 1975 to implement housing and community development programs in the City's neighborhoods. The CDBG-CV funds are a result of the CARES Act passed by Congress and signed by the President in March 2020 to address the Corona Virus Pandemic. The funds were allocated to the City from HUD to address the City of Richmond's priorities that have been identified in the 2019 Annual Action Plan. Citizens and other interested persons are invited to give their views regarding the use of these funds for the renovation of the proposed facilities at the various Inclement Weather Shelter (IWS) sites (Commonwealth Catholic Charities-1900 Chamberlayne Parkway; Fifth Street Baptist Church-2800 3rd Avenue; RVA Sister's Keeper-2807 Hull Street; and United Nations Church-1901 Wall Street) and also the balance of previously reprogrammed CDBG-CV funds for the proposed operation of the Inclement Weather Shelter (IWS) at 1900 Chamberlayne Parkway-Commonwealth Catholic Charities.

Anyone wishing to submit written comments as part of the extended comment period, please send the written comments via email to HCD@rva.gov. Comments may also be mailed to Sherrill Hampton, Director, Housing and Community Development, 1500 E. Main Street, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219-3571.

The following project budget amendments are for CDBG-CV and CDBG reprogrammed funds. No additional funds were received from HUD for this amendment. The proposed activities are outlined below:

Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG-CV): \$229,698

1. **Inclement Weather Shelter-CDBG-CV** – Last year, a new activity in the amount of \$1,095,783 to stop and prevent the spread of COVID-19 amongst the City’s homeless population during times of inclement weather was added. Of this amount, \$866,085 was spent by the shelter provider for the operations of the FY22 Inclement Weather Shelter at the Quality Inn Hotel. HCD is proposing to use the balance of the approved funds, \$229,698, for the operations of the FY23 Inclement Weather Shelter at (Commonwealth Catholic Charities-1900 Chamberlayne Parkway).

Community Development Block Grant-(CDBG): \$485,689

1. **Inclement Weather Shelter-CDBG** - Last year a new activity was added in the amount of \$485,689 to stop and prevent the spread of COVID-19 amongst the city’s homeless population during times of inclement weather. The approved service provider did not complete the renovation of the proposed site and requested to be released from the contract. None of the allocated CDBG funds for construction were spent. For FY23, HCD is requesting that these funds be used to undertake renovations at the various proposed IWS scattered sites (Commonwealth Catholic Charities-1900 Chamberlayne Parkway; Fifth Street Baptist Church-2800 3rd Avenue; RVA Sister’s Keeper-2807 Hull Street; and United Nations Church-1901 Wall Street). Renovations include bathroom and other minor facility repairs, installation of showers and ventilation system enhancements, painting, and fencing, along with a deep sanitization process for cleaning will also be conducted. Safety measures will be employed to reduce the spread of COVID-19 by providing PPE, controlling social distancing, hand washing and sanitization stations as well as periodic professional cleaning. CDBG funds will only be used for rehabilitation costs.

For FY 2023, the model for the provision of services is being changed to having small scattered shelter sites and will include two phases. This first Ordinance, which addresses Phase I activities only, is for the renovation of all four (4) sites (Commonwealth Catholic Charities-1900 Chamberlayne Parkway; Fifth Street Baptist Church-2800 3rd Avenue; RVA Sister’s Keeper-2807 Hull Street; and United Nations Church-1901 Wall Street) and operational funding for the Inclement Weather Shelter at 1900 Chamberlayne Parkway-Commonwealth Catholic Charities for 60 beds.

Copies of the amended 2019 Annual Action Plan are available for public review on HCD’s website located at <https://www.rva.gov/housing-and-community-development>. Citizens can also request a hard copy via US Mail or an electronic copy via e-mail. To request a copy, contact the Department of Housing and Community Development at 804-646-1766, Sherrill Hampton at Sherrill.Hampton@rva.gov or Michelle Peters at Michelle.Peters@rva.gov or by mail at the City of Richmond, Department of Housing & Community Development, 1500 E Main Street, Suite 300, Richmond VA 23219-3571. A copy is also available at the Reference Desk at the Main Richmond Public Library located at 101 East Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

The City of Richmond does not discriminate on the basis of disability status in the admission of, or access to, or treatment in its federally assisted programs or activities. Virginia Relay Center - TDD Users - 1-800-828-1120. Citizens and interested persons are invited to give their views regarding the use of CDBG and CDBG-CV funds for the proposed Annual Action Plan. The City will arrange for reasonable accommodations for non-English speaking persons or those persons with visual, hearing, or mobility impairments when notified within five (5) business days of the close of the public comment period.