

# Los Angeles Housing + Community Investment Department (HCIDLA) Sixth Substantial Amendment to the 46<sup>th</sup> Program Year (2020-21) Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan

Change to Project Allocations for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV)

## Purpose

In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (found under 24 CFR Parts 91.105 and 91.505), and our Citizen Participation Plan, the City of Los Angeles is required to notify and provide citizens with an opportunity to comment on all proposed Substantial Amendments to its Housing and Community Development Consolidated Annual Action Plan (Con Plan). The City wishes to notify the public of a substantial amendment to its 46th Year (PY 46) 2020-21 Con Plan.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act authorizes an expedited public comment period for the substantial amendment, and the public will have at least five days to review and comment, in accordance with a federal waiver requested April 7, 2020 and effective April 9, 2020. A public comment period will be open to provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment on this proposed sixth amendment, beginning April 5, 2021 and ending on April 11, 2021.

#### **Proposed Changes**

The City Council and Mayor adopted the PY 46 Con Plan budget on July 1, 2020, and since then, a change to project allocations for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) has been proposed.

Additionally, project allocations are proposed for the third round of Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funds from the federal government in the amount of \$39,166,408.

## Change to CDBG Project Allocations – Addition of Human Trafficking Shelter

Savings from prior year projects, that are completed and have balances, are available in the amount of \$3,100,000. This amount is proposed to be awarded to the Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST) to acquire a multi-family building in the 5th Council District. The property will be converted to an emergency shelter for human trafficking survivors and provide additional beds for women identified as survivors.

CAST is a nonprofit organization that currently operates a 40-bed facility for survivors of human trafficking as part of the City's Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Shelter Program. CAST was founded in 1998 and has helped 1,664 survivors of human trafficking; they have ensured all of their graduates have both stable housing and healthcare, with 88% of their clients employed or in school. The addition of this emergency shelter will expand the available resources to help women exit a dangerous situation and rebuild their lives.

## Third Round of CDBG-CV Funding Project Allocations

Funding from the third round of CDBG-CV was awarded to the City by the federal government in the amount of \$39,166,408. In addition, the amount of \$232,965 CDBG-CV funding is available from the first round of

CDBG-CV due to the funds being withdrawn from the Criminal Record Clearance project. The Criminal Record Clearance project for persons who have experienced homelessness will be supported by another source instead, and the CDBG-CV funding will be reprogrammed. The total amount available to allocate is \$39,399,373.

The following projects have been proposed to receive funding. The City has chosen to focus its efforts on assisting students and helping people to return to work. These projects are designed to complement each other to offer a full spectrum of assistance, to help people return to their professions, assist disadvantaged students close the digital and educational gap, and support efforts to get people safe, secure, and stable housing.

Project/Program	Department	CDBG-CV Amount	Description
Survivors First Housing (Domestic Violence)	HCIDLA	\$5,000,000	Funds a housing first approach and COVID-related/created rental arrears. Funds will support the implementation of a 12-month direct services program for families that include but are not limited to those with obstacles to accessing stable, permanent housing; those with credit challenges as a result of financial abuse by an intimate partner; and services for unemployed and/or under-employed adults.
Vaccine Outreach	HCIDLA	\$400,000	Funds an education and outreach campaign, targeting low-income communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Bus Stop messaging, community markets, neighborhood clinics, and grassroots outreach will be some of the focus on disseminating information, dispelling myths and providing information on access to available vaccines among communities of color.
Homelessness Services	HCIDLA / Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)	\$10,000,000	Funds ongoing programming and services geared to address and prevent homelessness, including but not limited to adult homelessness prevention and job training and retention for those that are homeless and at-risk of falling into homelessness.

Project/Program	Department	CDBG-CV Amount	Description
Childcare Provider Grant	Economic & Workforce Development (EWDD)	\$2,500,000	Funds child care centers that have been identified as microenterprises (5 or fewer employees) and nonprofit child care centers. There will be up to 125 grants at \$20,000. Childcare centers must provide information on how the business was impacted by COVID-19 through a hardship statement including details about its closure and/or a reduction in revenue.
Childcare Support	EWDD	\$3,300,000	Funds childcare services for 500 single-parent job seekers with payments to providers at up to \$1,000/month, for up to a maximum of six months. Childcare support will be provided to participants either enrolled in a qualifying employment training program or returning to employment. The City's workforce development system (WorkSource) will also partner with the City's FamilySource and Domestic Violence Shelter Operations programs to identify participants.
Employment Training	EWDD	\$1,500,000	Funds short-term vocational training opportunities in the healthcare and/or the childcare employment sectors. This program will focus on low-wage, single-parent job seekers whose employment was impacted by the pandemic. Up to 500 participants will be enrolled in short-term certificate training programs in the healthcare and childcare fields through Los Angeles Community College District campuses or through Los Angeles Unified School District Division of Adult and Career Education (LAUSD DACE).
Microenterprise Grants for Small Business	EWDD	\$8,500,000	Funds financial support for the recovery of microenterprises (5 or fewer employees) that experienced significant economic impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants of up to \$15,000 will be awarded to eligible to microenterprises. Priority will be given to businesses that have not received assistance through any City, State or Federal program.

Project/Program	Department	CDBG-CV Amount	Description
Tech2Go (Hotspot Lending)	Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL)	\$2,000,000	Funds the Tech2Go Hotspot Loan Program for internet hotspots that will allow residents who have been impacted by the pandemic to access the internet to conduct job searches, complete job applications, find out about retraining opportunities, research social service programs, and receive distance learning education. The mobile hotspots allow users to connect their laptop, tablet, and other Wi-Fi enabled devices to the internet.
Alternative Learning + Summer Enrichment	Recreation & Parks (RAP)	\$4,000,000	Funds will support the continuation of supervised learning centers, 20 days per month at 50 sites, for after school programs serving elementary and middle school students at recreation centers across the City. Spaces provide free internet access and recreational activities; all learning centers follow guidance from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Funding will ensure continued access for the Spring through Summer break (April through August 2021).
Services Subtotal		\$37,200,000	χ. γ
HCIDLA Administration	HCIDLA	\$999,373	For proper cost allocation for staff work on CDBG-CV
EWDD Administration	EWDD	\$1,000,000	For proper cost allocation for staff work on CDBG-CV
LAPL Administration	LAPL	\$100,000	For proper cost allocation for staff work on CDBG-CV
RAP Administration	RAP	\$100,000	For proper cost allocation for staff work on CDBG-CV
Administration Subtotal		\$2,199,373	
Total		\$39,399,373	

Please note that the City did not receive any second round CDBG-CV funds from the federal government.

## **Comment Period**

HCIDLA will receive public comment on the proposed amendment from about April 5, 2021 through April 11, 2021.

Please address questions or comments on the proposed substantial amendment to:

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