



PUBLIC NOTICE

Advertisement of Availability of Coronavirus Funding of \$422,871 Substantial Amendment to the CDBG 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, and Amended 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan

Funding Availability Substantial Amendment 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan Citizen Participation Plan

The City of Ocala Community Development Services is proposing to amend both the 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the 2019 Annual Action Plan for use of awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.05(c)(2) and subpart B of the federal regulations relative to citizen participation for Community Development Services Programs; and applicable waivers made available to those requirements through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

This qualifies as a substantial amendment to the City's 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated Plan and its 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan, because the City is allocating newly awarded funding to a previous CDBG program year as instructed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This award through the CARES Act will enable the City of Ocala to administer \$422,871 in new funding. Said funding will be allocated to support the following categories that were designed to centralize the City's COVID-19 relief and recovery activities that include:

- Microenterprises
- Educational Programs targeted to students from Low- Moderate Income LMI families who may have fallen behind in their education as a result of the pandemic due to absenteeism, inadequate internet access, or other lack of support for remote learning.
- Public Services
- Broadband infrastructure projects to expand high speed internet access to LMI communities.

The City of Ocala updated the Citizen Participation Plan to provide opportunities for the public to continue to engage in a virtual public comment process, during a shortened regulatory, advertisement, public comment, and virtual hearing timeframe.

Based on the regulatory relief provided in the CARES Act and guidance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the public will have five (5) days from publication of this advertisement to provide written comments. The proposed Annual Action Plan and amendments to the Consolidated Plan can be viewed at <https://www.ocalafl.org/government/city-departments-and-community-development-services/community-programs>



Public Comment Period and Process:

This Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan amendment is available for a 5-day public review and comment period from June 10, 2021 to June 15, 2021. Citizens who wish to submit written comments during the public review and comment period may mail them via United States Postal Services (USPS), postmarked no later than June 15, 2021, to the following address:

City of Ocala
Attention: Burnadine Rich
Manager, Community Programs Division
201 SE 3rd Street, 2nd Floor
Ocala, FL 34470

You may also email comments no later than June 15, 2021 to CommunityDevelopment@ocalafl.org.

The funds will be re-allocated and allocated as indicated above to prevent the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and facilitate assistance to the eligible agencies and businesses economically impacted by COVID-19.