

**CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Notice of Public Comment Period, Public Hearings, and Proposed Substantial Amendment to 2021
Annual Action Plan
January 6, 2023**

Background

The City of Niagara Falls (City) is proposing amendments to its 2021 Annual Action Plan. The amendments address the use of HOME American Rescue Plan (HOME ARP) funds awarded to the City. This notice also addresses the public comment period and public hearing for the amendments.

2021 Action Plan Substantial Amendment

Notice is hereby given that the City proposes a Substantial Amendment of its 2021 Action Plan. The 2021 Action Plan will address the award of \$1.6 Million from HUD to provide housing, shelter, and supportive services for persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness, fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, and other vulnerable populations at greatest risk of housing instability. After the receipt and evaluation of proposed activities, this substantial amendment is subject to a public comment period and public hearing as detailed below.

Requests for additional information regarding the Substantial Amendment should be submitted by email to Clifford Scott at Clifford.Scott@niagarafalls.ny.gov . This proposed Substantial Amendment is subject to a public comment period and public hearing as detailed below.

HOME ARP Funding

Notice is hereby given that the City of Niagara Falls proposes a Substantial Amendment of its Annual Action Plan for 2021 to include the use of HOME ARP funding awarded to the City. The City is proposing to use this funding to implement activities in the following categories:

- Acquisition, rehabilitation, adaptive reuse, or construction of affordable rental housing, including permanent supportive housing for qualifying populations;
- Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA) to help qualifying populations pay rent, security deposits, and utility deposits and payments;
- A broad range of supportive services to prevent homelessness and foster housing stability such as emergency assistance, job training, childcare, and educational services;
- Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter to create private temporary units/rooms for households experiencing homelessness or fleeing abusive situations;
- Capacity Building & Nonprofit Operating to build capacity and financial stability in local nonprofit organizations serving your community with HOME-ARP activities;
- Administration and planning to hire, train, and support new staff to select, manage, monitor, and evaluate HOME-ARP projects and activities.

Requests for additional information regarding the CARES Act funding should be submitted by email to Clifford Scott at Clifford.Scott@niagarafalls.ny.gov . This proposed Substantial Amendment is subject to a public comment period and public hearing as detailed below.

Public Comment Periods

A public comment period on Substantial Amendments to the 2021 Action Plan opens January 6, 2022. Public comments must be received in writing on or before February 6, 2023. Written comments may be submitted in person at, or by mail addressed to: City of Niagara Falls, Department of Community Development, 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14302. Written comments may be submitted by e-mail addressed to Clifford Scott at Clifford.Scott@niagarafalls.ny.gov . All comments will be presented to the City Council prior to its consideration of resolutions to submit the amendments to HUD. The City also will meet with organizations from the Continuum of Care and other service providers.

Public Hearing

The Niagara Falls City Council will hold a public hearing on February 16, 2023 commencing at 6:00 p.m. The hearing will provide information and allow citizen comment regarding the proposed Substantial Amendment to the 2021 Annual Action Plan to include activities funded with HOME ARP funding. Public comments to be read during the public hearing may be submitted in advance of the hearing to Clifford.Scott@niagarafalls.ny.gov . Every effort will be made to respond to public concerns, suggestions, and questions during the hearing. All subsequent responses will be posted at the following website: <https://nf-cd.org/news> . All public comments will be presented to the City Council before a vote on 2021 Annual Action Plan-HOME ARP Funding moves forward. The 2021 Substantial Amendments to the Annual Action Plan must be approved by City Council.

Robert Restaino, Mayor
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