

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

Notice of Public Comment Period, Public Hearings, Proposed Substantial Amendments to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan

September 3, 2021

Background

The City of Niagara Falls (City) is proposing amendments to its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan that cover the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding received by the City from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The amendments, which are described below, address (i) the reprogramming of CDBG funds, and to address the impacts of the Covid-19 virus.

Substantial Amendment to 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan

Notice is hereby given that the City proposes a Substantial Amendment of its HUD 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The 2020-2024 Plan included a Public Space Improvements Goal, and given the increasing need to stabilize target neighborhoods, remove dangerous and blighting influences, and improve transportation safety in low- and moderate-income areas, targeted blight eliminations activities are reemphasized in the Public Improvement plans. This proposed Substantial Amendment is subject to a public comment period and public hearing as detailed below.

Substantial Amendment to 2020 Annual Action Plan

Notice is hereby given that the City proposes a Substantial Amendment of its HUD Annual Action Plan for 2020 to reprogram unused CDBG funds from the accounts below to be used in FY 2020 -2021. The funds targeted for reprogramming consist of unused funds, balances for programs that no longer exist, or are funds unlikely to be used in a timely manner. If these funds are not expended, the City's federal grant allocations will be at risk of recapture by HUD. Funds will be allocated for activities that will allow for timely expenditures. In accordance with Consolidated Plan requirements at 24 CFR Part 91 Subpart B and the City's Citizen Participation Plan, the City has posted the changes to the Action Plan through this Reprogramming Amendment in order to provide opportunity for public comment. A summary of the proposed reprogramming is as follows:

Prior Year Funding Line Items to be reprogrammed:

2015 Reprogramming IDIS # 1791-Commerical Facade	\$10,000
2016 Reprogramming IDIS #1764-Park Improvements	\$39,996.32
2018 Reprogramming IDIS#1949-CD Program Supplies	\$49,333

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 (i) Substantial Amendments to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan, and (ii) CARES Act Supplemental CDBG and ESG Funding, opens September 3, 2021. Public comments must be received in writing on or before October 1, 2021. Written comments may be submitted in person at, or by mail addressed to: City of Niagara Falls, Department of Community Development, 1022 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.

Public Hearings

The Niagara Falls City Council will hold a public hearings on October 4, 2021 commencing at 5:00 p.m. The in person public hearing will be held at City Hall, City Council Chambers as well as the Public Hearing will be made available via live stream on Youtube Channel: Rich Meranto NF City Schools. Public comment 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 (i) Substantial Amendments to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan. The Substantial Amendments must be approved by City Council before the Substantial Amendments can take effect.

Robert Restaino, Mayor
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