

**SECOND SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE JEFFERSON COUNTY
2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS**

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires all entitlement communities receiving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, such as Jefferson County, to prepare and submit a Consolidated Plan every five years to establish a unified, strategic vision for economic development, housing and community development actions. The Consolidated Plan encompasses the analysis of local community needs and coordinates appropriate responses to those needs and priorities. Jefferson County adopted the 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan (“Consolidated Plan”) in May 2015.

The Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified in the Consolidated Plan. The County must submit an Annual Action Plan to HUD each year during the five-year period. Jefferson County adopted the 2019 Action Plan (“Action Plan”) in June 2019. This remains the County’s active Action Plan to this date.

Per Jefferson County’s Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), a Substantial Amendment to a Consolidated Plan and/or Action Plan is required when a “substantial” change is proposed as it relates to funding priorities, proposed activities, goals and objectives. This substantial amendment to the Action Plan is necessary because the County has been allocated new CDBG-CV funding as part of the third tranche of these funds through the March 27, 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Recovery Act (CARES Act) that it wishes to allocate to activities that assist with immediate and long-term aid and recovery efforts for Jefferson County residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

B. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the CARES Act and the associated waivers granted by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), an expedited public participation process is permitted in order to make funding available as soon as possible and provide reasonable and timely citizen input during the period in which the County is impacted by COVID-19. Therefore, the following amended policies will be followed during this time:

1. Virtual public meetings are permitted for the purpose of approving and/or amending Consolidated Plan/Action Plans
2. A minimum five-day public comment period can be utilized for amending Consolidated Plan/Action Plans.

A Notice of Public Hearing and 5-day public review period was published on the County’s website on April 22, 2021, informing the public of the proposed Substantial Amendment and inviting public review and comments. On May 5th, Jefferson County will hold a virtual public meeting to answer questions regarding the Substantial Amendment. The public review period will begin on April 28th and will end on May 5th. Due to the continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, citizens may review the Substantial Amendment online at the Jefferson County website and may receive copies upon request.

C. 2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT DETAILS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Jefferson County is proposing to allocate \$914,424 in new CDBG-CV funding to eligible activities that assist with immediate and longer-term needs for low- and moderate-income people impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. Eligible activities that the county intends to utilize this new funding for the acquisition/rehabilitation of a building or site for a navigation center, non-congregate shelter, and/or permanent supportive housing within the County as well as operation costs associated with this shelter including, but not limited to, the purchasing of Personal Protective Equipment, staffing costs, COVID-19 testing, and the re-development of the structure to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19. The County may further use these funds in the same manner as its original allocation of CDBG-CV, which includes assistance with emergency housing, motel vouchers, rental and mortgage assistance, eviction prevention, case management, low-income resident services, physical and mental health assistance, COVID-19 testing, personal protective equipment, deposit and moving costs, food access, utilities, transportation, employment, childcare, and self-sufficiency programming. The full usage of these funds will be utilized to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic within the Jefferson County community.

The programming of the additional funds is intended to be broad in scope to allow for quick and nimble response and assistance to anticipated and unanticipated needs as the crisis unfolds within the community. The County will work closely with a variety of community partners to assess the immediate and longer-term needs of those impacted by COVID-19 and ensure the funds assist those most in need as efficiently as possible.

All proposed activities will meet one or more of the following objectives:

- Benefit low- and moderate-income people
- Address an urgent community need

The following Table outlines the activity budgets that are being modified to reprogram funds to the proposed activity described in this Substantial Amendment:

Table 1: Proposed Activity Budget Modifications

Program Year/ Activity Title	Existing Budget	New Budget	Difference
<i>Increase Funding/Programming</i>			
2019 CDBG-eligible COVID response funding through CARES Act	\$646,759	\$1,561,183	\$914,424
Subtotal			\$1,561,183

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

All public comments received during the 5-day public review period or at the public hearing will be incorporated into the overall Substantial Amendment submitted to HUD.