

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

**DRAFT SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2019-2020 AND 2020-2021 ANNUAL ACTION
PLANS UNDER THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
COMMENT PERIOD: 1/19 to 1/25/21**

On 3/27/20 the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) was signed into law, making available \$5 billion in CDBG coronavirus response (CDBG-CV) funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. CARES will provide the City of Northampton its second installment of allocations totaling \$266,402 of CDBG-CV funds for a total of \$667,802. HUD requires that the City prepare and submit a Substantial Amendment to its 2019-2020 CDBG Annual Action Plan (AAP) that will describe how the City will administer these funds. The following are the proposed activities to be undertaken by the City using CDBG-CV funds. In addition, the City will propose changes in projects included in the 2020-2021 AAP.

The Northampton’s Office of Planning & Sustainability will hold a virtual public hearing to obtain public comments on the use of 2020-2021 Entitlement Funds, and CDBG-CV funds:

PUBLIC HEARING: 2019-2020 AAP and 2020-2021 AAP Substantial Amendment Review and Comment
DATE & TIME: Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021 5:30 P.M.
LOCATION: via internet: <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/8291877456>
via phone: dial 1-301-715-8592, enter meeting ID 8291877456#

Individuals, groups or agencies unable to attend the public hearings may submit written comments to Keith Benoit, Community Development Planner, 210 Main St., Northampton, MA 01060 or kbenoit@northamptonma.gov.

2020 Action Plan Activities

<i>Art Trust Ramps</i>	<i>\$200,000</i>
<i>South Street Apartments</i>	<i>\$83,175</i>
<i>Sidewalk Curb Cut Ramps</i>	<i>\$93,257</i>
<i>Affordable Housing</i>	<i>\$55,000</i>
<i>Sidewalks</i>	<i>\$30,402</i>
<i>Micro Business Assistance</i>	<i>\$30,000</i>
<i>First Time Homebuyers Grants</i>	<i>\$12,000</i>
<i>Public Infrastructure Improvements</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Public Services</i>	<i>\$149,732</i>
<i>Planning and Administration</i>	<i>\$136,468</i>

CDBG-CV Activities

<i>Resiliency Hub</i>	<i>\$416,824</i>
<i>Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance</i>	<i>\$94,956</i>

Small Business Grants	\$55,000
Small Business Grant Admin	\$20,000
Emergency Food Pantry	\$20,000
MANNA Soup Kitchen	\$5,000
Homeless Services	\$10,000
Pathways for Success	\$1,750
Planning and Administration:	\$44,272

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The City of Northampton’s Year 37 Consolidated Action Plan states that a substantial amendment requires a public notice of the amendment, a 30-day comment period, and one public hearing. The provisions have been altered in accordance with HUD guidelines issued in Docket No. FR-5309-N-01 Notice of Program Requirements for Community Development Block Grant Program Funding Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020, under which the City must post the Substantial Amendment on the City web site for public comment for a period of five (5) days. The comment period will run from 1/19/21 to 1/25/21.

In addition to posting on the web site, the 2019-2020 AAP and 2020-2021 AAP Substantial Amendment Notice will be posted in public buildings and spaces, and published in the Hampshire Gazette (paper of record).

The entire 2019-2020 AAP and 2020-2021 AAP Substantial Amendment to be submitted to HUD may be found at: www.northamptonma.gov/plan

The Substantial Amendments will be submitted to HUD for review on or about 1/27/21.

(Esta enmienda tambien esta disponible en Espanol. Si usted desea una copia, por favor de comincarse con Keith Benoit atra vez de kbenoit@northamptonma.gov).

Publish: January 11, 2021