



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

November 30, 2020

New Bedford City Council President Joseph P. Lopes and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of New Bedford
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

Dear Council President Lopes and Honorable Members:

The United States Congress has made funding available to the City of New Bedford, through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, was signed on March 27, 2020 to respond to the growing effects of the COVID Pandemic. The CARES Act makes available \$951,553 in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) and \$1,576,274 in supplemental Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) funding to the City of New Bedford for grant activities that prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

The City of New Bedford is required to complete and submit to HUD a substantial amendment to the FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan. Attached please find a copy of the *Substantial Amendment to the FY 2015-2019 Office of Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan and FY2019 Action Plan*, which sets forth activities to be funded through the CDBG-CV and ESG-CV for the current fiscal year.

I am requesting that you approve and authorize the submission of the *Substantial Amendment to the FY 2015-2019 Office of Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan and FY2019 Action Plan* to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

No substantive changes have been made to the Substantial Amendment to the FY 2015-2019 Office of Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan and FY2019 Action Plan which was made available to the public for review on November 30, 2020, for the HUD expedited 5-Day Public Comment Review Period which expired on December 7, 2020.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of the plan, please do not hesitate to contact Patrick J. Sullivan, Director of the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) at (508) 979-1500.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

Attachment

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 9, 2020

RESOLUTION OF THE NEW BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, The United States Congress has made funding available to the City of New Bedford, through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, was signed on March 27, 2020 to respond to the growing effects of the COVID Pandemic. The CARES Act makes available \$951,553 in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) and \$1,576,274 in supplemental Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) funding for grant activities that prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, and;

WHEREAS, Grantees eligible to receive funds under the CARES ACT, including the City of New Bedford are required to complete and submit to HUD a substantial amendment to the FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan.

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of New Bedford must be authorized to submit the Substantial Amendment to the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (FY2015-2019) and FY 2019 Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Federal financial assistance under said Acts;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the New Bedford City Council, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Mayor of the City of New Bedford is authorized to do all things necessary, and to execute any and all documents required for the timely application for Federal financial assistance under these Acts, as amended, and to provide any and all necessary documents which are required for the acceptance and use of CDBG-CV and, ESG-CV funds.

SECTION 2. The Mayor of the City of New Bedford, as Chief Executive Officer, is authorized and designated as an official representative for the City of New Bedford to act in all matters arising in connection with the application for funds, and in providing the United States of America or any of its subdivisions with any additional information as may be required.

IN CITY COUNCIL, December 9, 2020



SUBSTATIAL AMENDMENT #1 Adopted by City Council July 16, 2020
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT #2 Presented to City Council Dec. 9, 2020

Action Plan FY2019

Executive Summary

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development
Patrick J. Sullivan, Director





CITY OF NEW BEDFORD **DRAFT Substantial Amendment** **FISCAL YEAR 2019 ACTION PLAN**

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NOTE: Substantial Amendment is distinguished in red text throughout this document.

****Note. Substantial Amendment #2 is distinguished in blue throughout this document***

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

For the substantial amendment to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan as a result of the CDBG-CV funds and ESG-CV Funds, the City has scheduled a public hearing to take place virtually using Zoom on July 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and provided for more than 5 days of public comment, which is consistent with the HUD waivers 8 and 9. The amended draft Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan and the amended Citizen Participation Plan will be available for review and comment for a period of 7 days from July 8, 2020 to July 15, 2020 on the City's website at <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/housing-community-development/>

The Office of Housing and Community Development held a virtual public hearing to provide information and to commence with the Request for Proposal Process to allocate funding. The public meeting for the substantial amendment to the 2019 AAP for the CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds is set for July 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the regular meeting of the New Bedford City Council using a virtual format through Zoom. The public was provided an opportunity to review the amended AAP and Citizen Participation Plan from July 8, 2020 – July 15, 2020 and provide comments in writing via email and at the public hearing. Stakeholders were emailed about the amendments and encouraged to comment in writing or at the public hearing, and the public was notified in the Cable Access, the City website and through social media.

For the substantial amendment #2 to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan as a result of the CDBG-CV funds and ESG-CV Funds, the City held a Public Meeting virtually using Zoom on December 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and provided for more than 5 days of public comment, which is consistent with the HUD waivers 8 and 9. The amended draft Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan will be available for review and comment for a period of 7 days from November 30, 2020 to December 8, 2020 on the City's website at <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/housing-community-development/>

The public meeting for the substantial amendment to the 2019 AAP for the CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds was held on December 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the regular meeting of the New Bedford City Council using a virtual format through Zoom. The public will be provided an opportunity to review the amended AAP from November 30, 2020 – December 8, 2020 and provide comments in writing via email and at the public hearing. Stakeholders were emailed about the amendments and encouraged to comment in writing or at the public hearing, and the public was notified in the Cable Access, the City website and through social media.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The City of New Bedford undertakes a comprehensive process for civic engagement and public participation in accordance with its Citizen Participation Plan. Through direct consultation and public meetings, the city ensured that the plan met the needs and concerns of its low to moderate income residents specifically in the areas of affordable housing, suitable living environments and economic development. In addition to resident input through public meetings, the city reached out to social service organizations, housing providers, and other governmental and public entities to provide input into the identification and prioritization of needs. As part of the Action Plan process, the city held two (2) public meetings in January 2019 to solicit input from New Bedford residents and community based organizations. Over forty-five, (45) community leaders, residents and representatives of local non-profits attended the public meetings, focus groups and forums and provided critical input on community needs.

The draft Action Plan was made available by hard copies at the DPHCD office, City Hall, at various library locations throughout the city and on the City of New Bedford website. Any public comments received during the public hearings, public meetings, and during the public comment period are included in the plan. Lastly, the city publishes, in English, Spanish and Portuguese, notices regarding the public hearings, public meetings and public comment period in the official newspaper for the city. The city will consider all comments received during the Action Plan process.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provided regulatory relief in the form of waivers as part of the CARES Act, to allow for reduced citizen participation to expedite the allocation of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic additional funding provided by HUD under the CARES Act during the 2019 Program Year followed guidance issued by HUD on reduced citizen participation. The City of New Bedford amended its Citizen Participation Plan to include procedures for disaster response and mitigation.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provided regulatory relief in the form of waivers as part of the CARES Act, to allow for reduced citizen participation to expedite the allocation of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic additional funding provided by HUD under the CARES Act during the 2019 Program Year followed guidance issued by HUD on reduced citizen participation. The City of New Bedford amended its Citizen Participation Plan to include procedures for disaster response and mitigation.

Citizen Participation Outreach

1A.	Virtual Public Meeting through ZOOM Application	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Khmer, Portuguese, Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The City conducted a virtual public meeting on June 11, 2020 to obtain public input and comments on the COVID-19, CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding and a description of the substantial amendment process. The City Provided overview of the CARES ACT and allocation of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding availability and availability of technical assistance as well as provided opportunities for prioritization of COVID-19 needs and priorities. Forty-nine people attended the virtual meeting	No comments received	Not Applicable	
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
18	Community Survey	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Portuguese, Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>The City launched a web-based survey in three languages to capture input on resident prioritization in the use of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in New Bedford. The CDBG-CV survey was issued May 12, 2020 - May 22, 2020 and the ESG-CV survey was issued May 8, 2020- May 15, 2020</p>	All comments were recorded	Not Applicable	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1C	Public Hearing	Non-Targeted/Broad Community	<p>A public hearing for the 2019 AAP amendment to receive CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds was held during the virtual City Council meeting on July 16, 2020 with public comment on the amendment from July 8, 2020 ~ July 15, 2020. The City advertised the amendment to the 2019 AAP and CPP for public review with notice to the press, emailed key stakeholder list, City Facebook, and website posting.</p>	All comments were recorded	Not Applicable	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2A	Public Hearing	Non-Targeted/Broad Community	A public hearing for the 2019 AAP amendment to receive CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds was held during the virtual City Council meeting on December 9, 2020 with public comment on the amendment from November 30, 2020 – December 8, 2020. The City advertised the amendment to the 2019 AAP and CPP for public review with notice to the press, emailed key stakeholder list, City Facebook, and website posting.	All comments were recorded	Not Applicable	

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c) (1, 2)

Introduction

The city anticipates receipt of CDBG funds in the amount of \$2,658,238 annually. To maximize the impact of the CDBG Entitlement funds, the city expends general government funds, has aggressively and successfully secured significant grant funds, and encourages all partners and projects to leverage additional dollars.

As a HOME Investment Partnership Program Entitlement Community, the city will receive \$845,944 annual to support direct assistance to moderate income homebuyers and to subsidize the development cost of affordable housing projects.

The city will receive \$223,212 in Emergency Solution Grant funds to support emergency shelter, rapid re-housing, homeless prevention, services, street outreach and HMIS programs and services.

Priority Table

CDBG-CV	public - federal	Public Services, Interim Assistance, Economic Development	\$1,624,151	0	0	\$1,624,151	\$1,624,151	
ESG-CV	public - federal	Street outreach; Emergency shelter; Homelessness prevention; Rapid re-housing assistance; and (HMIS)	Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	0	0	\$805,424	\$805,424	
CDBG-CV	public - federal	Public Services, Public Facilities	\$951,553	0	0	\$951,553	\$951,553	
ESG-CV	public - federal	Street outreach; Emergency shelter; Homelessness prevention; Rapid re-housing assistance; and (HMIS)	Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	0	0	\$1,576,274	\$1,576,274	ESG-CV

Table 1 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The City of New Bedford anticipates CDBG funds will leverage additional resources. Non-entitlement funds that will be used to further the goals of the Strategic Plan may include: private foundations, organizations, and individuals. The following leveraged resources are anticipated during the Consolidated Plan period:

- **City General Funds - \$2,250,000:** The annual City budget commits resources for the priority activities including Public Parks, Facilities, and Infrastructure, and the Health Department.
- **Community Preservation Act - \$2,547,875:** City and State funded initiative for open space, historic preservation and housing.
- **State Affordable Housing Resources - \$1,750,000:** Affordable Housing Developments are likely to utilize a variety of State Housing Resources including Housing Bond funds, State Tax Credits, Historic Tax Credits and the Mass Rental Voucher program.
- **Federal Affordable Housing Resources - \$1,350,000:** Affordable Housing Developments are likely to utilize Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, Historic Tax Credits, Housing Trust Funds, and Federal Home Loan Funds.
- **YouthBuild New Bedford - \$200,000:** Department of Commerce award for Youth Build activities.
- **Philanthropy - \$800,000:** Private funding from national, state, and local funders including the United Way and Private Foundations, and private donors.
- **New Market Tax Credits:** NMTCs were created in 2000 as part of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act to encourage revitalization efforts. The NMTC program provides tax credit incentives for equity investment.
- **Section 8 Funds:** Section 8 is administered by the New Bedford Housing Authority and provides rental subsidies.
- **Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program:** administered by the State and provides rental subsidies.
- **Massachusetts HomeBASE Program:** HomeBASE is the Commonwealth's re-housing benefit created to provide those who qualify for emergency assistance and shelter an opportunity to overcome some of the financial barriers to ending their homelessness. Funded and administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development's Division of Housing Stabilization (DHS).

Match: The ESG program matching requirements are met through non-federal resource secured by individual program providers to meet or exceed the 1:1 HUD mandated ESG match requirement. All of our ESG funded programs have committed or surpassed the dollar for dollar match contribution on their awards. The HOME statute provides for a reduction of the matching contribution for qualified communities. New Bedford in FY19, had 19.3% of families living in poverty and had an average of per capita income of \$23,866. New Bedford has met both conditions to receive a 50% match reduction. The city has met its match liability requirements through the leveraging of state and federal resources as identified on form 40107-A.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

Publically owned land will be utilized in the furtherance of affordable housing development and to support the Mini-park and community garden program. Properties taken for back taxes may be used for housing redevelopment. Additionally, vacant city lots may be used for affordable in-fill housing or as Mini parks/ community gardens. The use of publically owned properties will address the need for safe, affordable housing and for increasing residents' access to recreational activities.

Discussion

The priorities identified within the Strategic Plan are the outcome of an extensive, comprehensive effort to identify community needs. The Strategic Plan assesses the available resources available to meet those needs. The City of New Bedford's investments will leverage public and private funds to address the economic development, affordable housing, community development, and special needs populations' needs.

Contingency Provision: The City of New Bedford included contingency language in the Draft FY19 Action Plan to account for not receiving exact entitlement allocations prior to the publication of the Draft FY19 Action Plan. The funding levels incorporated in the Draft FY19 Annual Action Plan and released for public comment were based on the funding allocations awarded in FY18. Any increase or decrease in funding allocation amounts will be applied proportionally to either reduce or increase funding to the CDBG, ESG and/or HOME Programs by the same percentage as depicted in the final allocation amounts released by HUD.

BUDGET: The following budget chart provide a breakdown of the CDBG-CV and ESG-CV programs and projects for FY19.

FY2020 CDBG-CV APPLICATION FUNDING		FY2020 AMOUNT
A. PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES	PROJECT NAME	
Catholic Social Services, Inc.	COVID-19 Assistance	\$ 100,000
Dennison Memorial Community Center	Dennison Kids 2020 Program	\$ 30,000
GNB WIB	Year Round Out of School Youth Program	\$ 150,000
Justice Resource Institute, Inc.	Community Health and Prevention Program	\$ 86,523
Immigrants Assistance Center, Inc.	Bridging Health Disparities for Immigrant Fa	\$ 50,000
NBAM / Artworks!	ArtMOBILE	\$ 9,200
Marion Institute	Grow Eduction - Farm to School Initiative	\$ 10,000
PACE	Housing Opportunity Center Program	\$ 61,151
South Coastal Counties Legal Services, Inc.	Safer at Home	\$ 95,000
United Way Hunger Commission	NV Shannon COVID Response	\$ 37,640
Youth Opportunities Unlimited	YOU Afterschool Youth Developent PRG	\$ 40,000
YWCA Southeastern MA, INC	YWCA COVID-19 Rapid Response PRG	\$ 20,000
A. SUBTOTAL PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITES		\$ 689,514
B. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	PROJECT NAME	
New Bedford Economic Development Council, Inc.	NB COVID-19 Disaster Relief Grant / Loan PRG	\$ 650,000
B. SUBTOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITES		\$ 650,000
C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION	PROJECT NAME	
CDBG Planning and Administration	Management & Project Monitoring	\$ 284,637
C. SUBTOTAL CD ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITES		\$ 284,637
TOTAL CDBG BUDGET		\$ 1,624,151
CDBG-CV ALLOCATION AMOUNT \$1,624,151		
FY2020 ESG-CV APPLICATION FUNDING		FY2020 AMOUNT
D. EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)	PROJECT NAME	
Catholic Social Services, Inc.	ESG CARES Act	\$ 282,600
New Bedford Women's Center	Care for Victims of DV w/ COVID-19 (ES)	\$ 105,200
PACE, Inc.	Safer At Home	\$ 235,050
Revival Deliverance Praise and Worship Center	RDPWC Street Outreach	\$ -
SRN, INC.	SRN Harbour House Family Center (ES)	\$ 10,000
Steppingstone, Inc.	FAIHR Supplemental Shelter Project (ES)	\$ 92,574
HMIS	HMIS	\$ -
Administration	Administration @ 10%	\$ 80,000
D. SUBTOTAL ESG ACTIVITES		\$ 805,424
TOTAL ESG BUDGET		\$ 805,424

BUDGET: The following budget chart provide a breakdown of the COVID # 2 Allocation for CDBG-CV and ESG-CV programs and projects for FY19

FY2020 CDBG-CV AWARDED AMOUNT #2		FY2020 AWARDED AMOUNT
A. PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES	PROJECT NAME	
MassHire Greater New Bedford	Year Round Out of School Youth Program	\$ 100,000
YMCA of SouthCoast	Remote Learning and Enrichment Program	\$ 150,000
A. SUBTOTAL PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES		\$ 250,000
B. PUBLIC FACILITIES	PROJECT NAME	
City of New Bedford MIS Department	Public Park Internet Access	\$150,000
People Acting in Community Endeavors, Inc.	Food Distribution Center	\$450,000
B. SUBTOTAL PUBLIC FACILITIES ACTIVITIES		\$ 600,000
C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION	PROJECT NAME	
CDBG Administration	Administration	\$ 101,553
C. SUBTOTAL CD-CV ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES		\$ 101,553
TOTAL CDBG-CV BUDGET		\$ 951,553
CDBG-CV ALLOCATION AMOUNT \$951,553		
FY2020 ESG-CV AWARDED AMOUNT #2		FY2020 AWARDED AMOUNT
A. EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) -CV	PROJECT NAME	
Catholic Social Services, Inc.	ESG-CARES ACT Round 2 (ES, RRH & HP)	\$ 335,377
New Bedford Women's Center	Care for Victims of DV w/ COVID-19 (ES, RRH & HP)	\$ 177,683
PACE, Inc.	Safer At Home #2 (RRH & HP)	\$ 603,458
SRN, INC.	Harbour House (ES)	\$ 21,000
Steppingstone, Inc.	FAIHR Supplemental Outreach Project (SO & ES)	\$ 171,751
SE MA Veterans Housing Program, Inc.	Veterans Meals, Staff Hazard Pay & SO (SO & ES)	\$ 63,017
City of New Bedford	Emergency Shelter Fund (ES)	\$ 46,361
HMIS	HMIS	\$ -
ESG Administration	Administration @ 10%	\$ 157,627
A. SUBTOTAL EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT ACTIVITIES		\$ 1,576,274
TOTAL ESG-CV BUDGET		\$ 1,576,274
ESG-CV ALLOCATION AMOUNT \$1,576,274		

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e) AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

In Year 5 of the Consolidated Plan, the city has allocated funding that addresses unmet priority need while continuing commitments to successful programs and multi-year initiatives. The HOME Rehabilitation program is a long-standing, successful effort that addresses a high need as identified in the Resident Needs Assessment—safe, affordable housing. Similarly, the economic development programs and initiatives operated by the New Bedford Economic Development Council are indicative of the city's long-standing commitment to support local business growth. Public service activity programs are successful programs operated by the city and non-profit partner agencies. Public infrastructure and projects represent a continued commitment to improving public spaces.

#	Project Name
1	PUBLIC SERVICES
2	INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS
3	CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES
4	PUBLIC FACILITY, PARK & PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS
5	HOUSING & REHAB PROJECTS
6	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
7	PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION
8	ESG ACTIVITIES
9	HOME ACTIVITIES
10	HOME ADMINISTRATION
11	RLF HOUSING PROJECTS

Table 1 – Project Information

The City will be receiving \$1,624,151 in CDBG-CV funds and \$805,424 in ESG-CV funds to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds will be split between Administration (maximum 20% CDBG-CV and 10% ESG-CV) and the remainder will be allocated to CDBG-CV Public Services and Economic Development Activities and all eligible activities under ESG-CV through a Request for Proposal Process.

The City will be receiving \$951,533 in CDBG-CV funds and \$1,576,274 in ESG-CV funds to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds will be split between Administration (maximum 20% CDBG-CV and 10% ESG-CV) and the remainder will be allocated to CDBG-CV Public Services and Public Facility Activities and all eligible activities under ESG-CV through a Request for Proposal Process.

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

The city allocated funding to address the priorities identified within the Consolidated Plan process. Reasons for allocation priorities are based on citizen input, broad goals established by the city, and demonstrated need for activities such as homeless services, economic development and neighborhood revitalization. The overwhelming priorities are the continued commitment to improving housing conditions, which account for 23% of the CDBG entitlement funding, and economic development initiatives, which account for 20% of CDBG entitlement funds.

Programs that support improvements to public infrastructure, facilities, and parks represent a significant investment in the capital needs in low and moderate income neighborhoods.

For the Consolidated Plan, the results of citizen input strongly supported homeownership and housing rehabilitation, so the city sets a priority on encouraging new homeownership and preserving existing homeownership. The primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is limited availability of local, state, and federal funding. Another obstacle is the continued affordability gap for renters and homeowners. Despite comparable low rent rates and real estate sales, a greater number of New Bedford residents pay a disproportionate amount of their income on housing.

The CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds will be distributed to organizations with eligible activities that are project-ready where they can prove they have an urgent need in response to COVID-19. The funds will be managed through the Office of Housing and Community Development.

The CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds will be distributed to organizations with eligible activities that are project-ready where they can prove they have an urgent need in response to COVID-19. The funds will be managed through the Office of Housing and Community Development.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 1 – Project Summary

Annual Action Plan
2019

OMB Control No: 2506-0117 (exp. 07/31/2015)

12	Project Name	CDBG-CV PUBLIC SERVICES
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Provide essential Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$749,514
	Description	Funding of various public service agencies which serve the needs of the youth, elderly and LMI individuals.
	Target Date	No target Date
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	CDBG-CV public services is expected to support 500 low- to moderate-income clients.
	Location Description	Citywide
13	Planned Activities	Planned activities include Interim Assistance for Housing costs(Rental and Mortgage) up to three months, After school youth programs, Fair Housing and Housing legal services, Food Security, and Immigrant Services
	Project Name	CDBG-CV ADMINISTRATION
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Planning and Administration
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing; Housing Services, Economic Development; Neighborhood Stabilization; Public Services; and Homeless Services.
	Funding	CDBG: \$224,637
	Description	Subrecipient management, program development, community engagement, plan development, and fiscal responsibilities.
	Target Date	No Target Date.
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	Citywide
	Project Name	CDBG-CV ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES
	Target Area	City-wide

14	Goals Supported	Job creation/Job Retention, microenterprise assistance
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$650,000
	Description	Economic Development activities for business assistance and job creation/retention.
	Target Date	No Target Date
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	50 small businesses assisted
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Economic development grants/loans for the purposes of job creation/retention to mitigate impacts of COVID-19 to small businesses.
15	Project Name	COVID EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG-CV)
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Homeless Services
	Needs Addressed	Planning and Administration
	Funding	ESG-CV: \$805,424
	Description	Funding of various public service agencies which serve the needs of the youth, elderly and LMI individuals.
	Target Date	No target
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,500
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Administration, Shelter Operation Support, Homeless Prevention, Rapid re-housing, Street Outreach and HMIS activities.

16	Project Name	CDBG-CV PUBLIC SERVICES
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Provide essential Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,000
	Description	Funding of various public service agencies which serve the needs of the youth, elderly and LMI individuals.
	Target Date	No target Date
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	CDBG-CV public services is expected to support 150 low- to moderate-income clients.
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include, After school youth programs, and Youth Employment Services

17	Project Name	CDBG-CV ADMINISTRATION
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Planning and Administration
	Needs Addressed	Public Services; Public Facilities and Homeless Services.
	Funding	CDBG: \$101,553
	Description	Subrecipient management, program development, community engagement, plan development, and fiscal responsibilities.
	Target Date	No Target Date.
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	Citywide

18	Project Name	CDBG-CV PUBLIC FACILITIES ACTIVITIES
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Food Security/Food Distribution assistance/ Internet Access to Public Spaces in underserved communities.
	Needs Addressed	PUBLIC FACILITIES to Assist LMI populations
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$600,000
	Description	Food Distribution Center, including drive thru Food Pantry.
	Target Date	No Target Date
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,000 individuals and families serviced
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Acquisition of a Building to house a Food Distribution Center and Food Pantry for LMI persons and families. to mitigate impacts of COVID-19 to food insecurity problems throughout the city. / Internet Access to Public Spaces in underserved communities.

City of New Bedford Office of Housing and Community Development Substantial Amendment #2 to the FY2015-FY2019 Consolidated Plan and the FY2019 Annual Action Plan

The City of New Bedford's Office of Housing and Community Development is proposing a substantial amendment to its One Year Action Plan (FY 2019) in order to receive a \$951,553 allocation in Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 (CDBG-CV) funds, and a \$1,576,274 allocation in Emergency Solutions Grant ESG COVID-19 (ESG-CV) funding. This is the second substantial amendment to the FY2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and FY19 Action Plan, the first being related to an initial receipt of COVID funding that included both CDBG-CV funding and ESG-CV funding.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, was signed on March 27, 2020 to respond to the growing effects of the COVID Pandemic. The City of New Bedford was notified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that it will receive \$951,553 in a subsequent round of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funding and \$1,576,274 in the second round of Emergency Solutions Grant ESG COVID-19 (ESG-CV) funding. The funding will be distributed through a request for proposal process to local organizations with urgent needs as a result of COVID-19 and prioritize the unique needs of low- and moderate-income persons.

The City was directed by HUD to amend its approved FY2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and FY2019 Annual Action Plan to reflect the allocation of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds and to demonstrate how the funding will be allocated to the City. This funding is a second allocation from HUD and necessitates a second Substantial Amendment to the City's FY2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and FY2019 Annual Action Plan .

At the time of the initial allocation the City was also directed by HUD to amend its Citizen Participation Plan to reflect two waivers issued by HUD that allow for a shortened 5-day comment period and alternative hearing formats (e.g., virtual meetings) due to the urgent nature of COVID-19; as such, that plan has already been amended to reflect these waivers.

Eligible CDBG activities include, but are not limited to, assisting low and moderate income households with rental assistance for no more than three months, general food security and meal programs, workforce development and re-training programs, small business assistance to retain employees that are low and moderate income and support of other COVID-19 response services to ensure public health and well-being.

Eligible ESG activities include street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, Homeless Management Information System and administration.

The amended document has been posted online (see link below) for public review and comment.

All public comments are welcomed and encouraged!

Amendments to the Substantial Amendment #2 2019 Annual Action Plan at a Glance:

- The approved 2019 Annual Action Plan has been amended to reflect the allocation of \$951,553 in CDBG-CV funds and \$1,576,274 in a second round of FY19 ESG-CV funds.
- The proposed amendments to the document are indicated with underlined text. Specific updates are noted below by section and page number.
 - AP-05 Executive Summary: the summary of Citizen Participation was updated (See page 5).

- **AP-10 Consultation:** text was added regarding the December 9, 2020 Public Meeting.
- **AP-12 Participation:** please see notation regarding HUD's issuance of Waiver's for the 2019 AAP amendment to receive the CDBG-CV funds and ESG-CV funds.
- **AP-15 Expected Resources:** text was added about the CDBG-CV, ESG-CV funds, dollar amounts were updated to include the new allocation of CDBG-CV, ESG-CV funds. (See page 40.)
- **AP-35 Projects:** text was added about the allocation of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds and how it will be distributed to the community through a request for proposals process. (See page 46,47)
- **AP-38 Project Summary:** the information and timelines were updated to reflect the CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds and the proposed projects. (See pages 55-57)

The amended draft Annual Action Plan for PY2019 will be available for review and comment for a period of at least 5 days from November 30, 2020 to December 7, 2020.

Citizen Participation Plan

The Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) was already amended to reflect HUD Waivers that put aside the 15 and 30-day minimums for the public comments and allow for no less than five (5) days during the current emergency period. Additionally, the CPP also allows the use of virtual meetings in an effort to contain COVID-19 and limit public gatherings in accordance with HUD Waivers. The amended CPP is available online at: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/newbedford-ma/wp-content/uploads/sites/58/20200708123318/AMENDED-CPP-July-2-2020-FINAL.pdf>

Opportunities for Public Comment

Written comments will be accepted beginning November 30, 2020 – December 7, 2020 by emailing the Office of Housing & Community Development at: OHCD@newbedford-ma.gov.

A public hearing will be held virtually using Zoom at the regular meeting of the City Council on December 9, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. to consider any and all public comments on the amended 2019 Annual Action Plan.

The link to the New Bedford Cable access for the City Council Zoom meeting is:
<https://www.facebook.com/nbcablenetwork/>