



**City of Grand Rapids
Plan Amendment - FFY 2020 (FY 2021) Housing and Community
Development Annual Action Plan**

Background. On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, was signed, providing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and support low-income families and vulnerable populations. The Act also provided Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and prevention activities to mitigate the impact of COVID-19.

Available Resources. These supplemental funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) were allocated by formula under the CDBG and ESG entitlement programs. The City of Grand Rapids received a total of \$6,943,388 from the following grant awards:

Award	CDBG-CV	ESG-CV	Reprogrammed CDBG	Total
1	\$2,219,476	\$1,120,648	\$200,000	\$3,540,124
2	\$1,194,278	\$2,039,593	\$0	\$3,233,871
3	\$0	\$169,393	\$0	\$169,393
Total	\$3,413,754	\$3,329,634	\$200,000	\$6,943,388

Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plans. The City of Grand Rapids FFY 2016-2020 Consolidated Housing and Community Development (HCD) Plan provides detailed information on current housing and community development needs and priorities and serves as a strategic planning tool to address these issues. Subsequently, HUD requires annual submission of a Consolidated Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan (Annual Plan) that identifies available resources and specific actions to be taken to address issues outlined in the HCD Plan.

Annual Plans, which serve as the City's funding applications to HUD, provide information regarding the City's grants administration, approach to resource allocation, and specific project descriptions and funding levels. Annual Plans also discuss strategies for addressing community development, housing, homelessness, and poverty issues.

All projects, excluding the Emergency Solutions Grants Program, which addresses strategies identified in the Grand Rapids Area Coalition to End Homelessness’ Strategic Plan, support one of the following eight outcomes outlined in the Neighborhood Investment (NI) Plan.

1. Improve the condition of existing housing
2. Increase the supply of affordable housing
3. Improve access to and stability of affordable housing
4. Reduce blight and code violations
5. Increase civic engagement and public safety
6. Enhance infrastructure and public facilities
7. Increase access to jobs, education, and other services
8. Increase economic opportunities

Amendment to the City’s FFY 2020 (FY 2021) Housing and Community Development Action Plan is required for programming an additional ESG-CV award totaling \$169,393. Amendments are detailed beginning on the next page.

Resources are programmed within the framework of the City’s Economic Resiliency and Recovery Investment Strategy comprising four impact areas: Resident Resiliency, Business Resiliency and Recovery, Community Reactivation, and Transportation and Infrastructure. CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds are intended to support three of these impact areas as summarized below.

	CDBG-CV	ESG-CV	Reprogrammed CDBG	Total
Resident Resiliency	\$2,018,445	\$3,000,907	\$104,000	\$5,123,352
Business Resiliency and Recovery	830,430	0	0	830,430
Community Reactivation	223,504	0	96,000	319,504
Grant Administration and Oversight	341,375	328,727	0	670,102
Total	\$3,413,754	\$3,329,634	\$200,000	\$6,943,388

Public Comment

Amendment to the FFY 2020 (FY 2021) Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for the programming of an additional ESG-CV award totaling \$169,393 is not subject to citizen participation plan consultation or public participation requirements.

Resident Resiliency	
Current Plan for CARES Act Funding	Amendment
<p>CDBG, CDBG-CV, and ESG-CV funds will support <i>Resident Resiliency</i> measures to mitigate impact of COVID-19 on residents through activities that may include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Job training and mentoring; ▪ Housing support services including foreclosure counseling, fair housing and legal services, and other supports to maintain stable housing; ▪ Housing security services for homeless persons or those imminently at risk of homelessness, including eviction prevention, rapid re-housing, rent and utility assistance, emergency shelter, and outreach/case management services; ▪ Neighborhood support and technical assistance for resident organization, education and promotion of public health and safety; and to facilitate improved resident communications, education, and training; ▪ Mental health services; ▪ Neighborhood-based youth academic instruction and support; ▪ Homelessness health and safety measures; and ▪ Neighborhood clean ups. <p><u>Amount Allocated:</u> \$4,966,663</p> <p><u>Target Area:</u> Activities that provide a direct financial benefit to individuals will be available Citywide. Support for organizations that facilitate resident organization and education activities will be targeted to the Community Development General Target Area.</p> <p><u>NI Plan Outcomes:</u> Improve access to and stability of housing; Increase civic engagement and public safety; Increase economic opportunities</p> <p><u>HCD Plan Priority Need(s) Addressed:</u> Access to and stability of affordable owner housing; Access to and stability of affordable rental housing; Prevention of homelessness; and Neighborhood and commercial district public safety improvements</p> <p><u>Target Completion Date:</u> September 30, 2022</p>	<p><u>Completed Activities Funded with ESG-CV 1 & 2:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street Outreach • Emergency Shelter • Rapid Re-housing • Homelessness Prevention <p><u>Activities Funded with Reallocated ESG-CV:</u> The additional ESG-CV funds are allocated for Homelessness Prevention through the 61st District Court Eviction Prevention Program.</p> <p><u>Amount Allocated:</u> Increase by \$156,689 for a total of \$5,123,352.</p> <p><u>Target Completion Date:</u> February 29, 2024</p>

Business Resiliency and Recovery	
Current Plan for CARES Act Funding	Amendment
<p>CDBG-CV funds will support <i>Business Resiliency and Recovery</i> measures to sustain businesses and retain or create jobs impacted by COVID-19 through activities that may include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial and technical assistance for small businesses; and ▪ Financial and technical assistance for microenterprises. <p>Funding will assist businesses that create or retain jobs for low- and moderate-income (LMI) residents, businesses owned by LMI individuals, and businesses that provide services to residents of an LMI area.</p> <p><u>Amount Allocated:</u> \$830,430</p> <p><u>Target Area:</u> City of Grand Rapids</p> <p><u>NI Plan Outcomes:</u> Increase access to jobs, education, and other services; and Increase economic opportunities</p> <p><u>HCD Plan Priority Need(s) Addressed:</u> Improved access to jobs; Job creation; and Economic opportunities</p> <p><u>Target Completion Date:</u> June 30, 2022</p>	<p>No changes</p>

Community Reactivation	
Current Plan for CARES Act Funding	Amendment
<p>CDBG funds will support <i>Community Reactivation</i> measures to accelerate resiliency and recovery efforts by supporting a sense of community in neighborhoods and neighborhood business districts impacted by COVID-19 through activities that may include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neighborhood initiatives and events that connect residents with one another, build social ties, and improve quality of life; and ▪ Neighborhood business initiatives and events that encourage residents to engage with reopened businesses, activate public spaces, and promote civic pride; and support for safe activation of public park spaces. <p><u>Amount Allocated:</u> \$319,504</p> <p><u>Target Area:</u> Community Development General Target Area</p> <p><u>NI Plan Outcomes:</u> Increase civic engagement and public safety</p> <p><u>HCD Plan Priority Need(s) Addressed:</u> Increase neighborhood leadership and civic engagement</p> <p><u>Target Completion Date:</u> June 30, 2023</p>	<p>No changes</p>

Grant Administration and Oversight	
Current Plan for CARES Act Funding	Proposed Amendment
<p>The CARES Act allows grant recipients to retain up to 20% of the CDBG-CV award and 10% of the ESG-CV awards for grant administration. This funding supports activities to assess community needs; plan the use of resources; provide for citizen input and public information; allocate, monitor, and report the use of funds; and assure compliance with grant requirements. The City anticipates using up to 10% of each grant for this purpose.</p> <p><u>Amount Allocated:</u> \$657,398</p>	<p>Amount Allocated: Increase by \$12,704 for a total of \$670,102 for ESG-CV Administration.</p>