



BERGEN COUNTY
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CARES ACT FUNDS (CDBG-CV3)

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Public Law 116-136 which was signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020, authorized the allocation of funds to respond to the growing effects of this historic public health crisis. The CARES Act made available \$5 billion in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds. Of this amount, the Department immediately allocated \$2 billion on March 27, 2020, the same day President Trump signed the Act, based on the fiscal year 2020 CDBG formula; this constituted the first round of CDBG-CV funds. Next, \$1 billion was required by the Act to be allocated to States and insular areas within 45 days of enactment of the Act; HUD accomplished this on May 11, 2020, and this constituted the second round of CDBG-CV funds. Finally, the remaining \$2 billion in CDBG-CV funds was required by the Act to be allocated to states and local governments at the discretion of the Secretary on a rolling basis; HUD accomplished this on September 11, 2020, and this constituted the third round of CDBG-CV funds. Additionally, up to \$10 million will be set aside for technical assistance. HUD announced on April 2, 2020 the first allocation of \$5,562,321 to the County of Bergen and on September 11, 2020 the third round of \$7,036,810. The cumulative amount for all allocation rounds is \$12,599,131.

The CARES Act adds additional flexibility for both the CDBG-CV grant and, in some cases, for the annual FY2019 and FY2020 CDBG grants in these unprecedented times. The public comment period is reduced to not less than 5 days, grantees may use virtual conferencing for public hearings when necessary for public health reasons, the public services cap is suspended during the emergency, and States and local governments may reimburse costs of eligible activities incurred for pandemic response regardless of the date.

In addition, the CARES Act authorizes the HUD Secretary to grant waivers and alternative requirements of statutes and regulations. The Secretary administered in connection with the use of CDBG-CV funds, fiscal year 2019 and 2020 CDBG funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment).

The County of Bergen proposes to amend its FY2019 CDBG One Year Action Plan to make use of its allocation of CDBG funds pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). Consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Memorandum (Memo) dated April 9, 2020.

CDBG-CV funds will support a variety of activities to prevent, prepare and respond to coronavirus including but not limited to:

- Public facilities and Improvement projects that directly contribute to addressing COVID-19 related issues,
- Public Services – particularly those directed to, but not limited to, senior services, food provision, emergency assistance and domestic violence services, and
- Other eligible activities that directly prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus.

All CDBG-CV funds must meet one of the CDBG National Objectives as defined in the 2019 One Year Plan and in federal regulations at 24 CFR 570.483.

- Area Benefit
- Limited Clientele

Allocation of funds from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD):

County of Bergen CARES Act Fund Allocation CV1:	\$ 5, 562,321.00
County of Bergen CARES Act Fund Allocation CV3:	\$ 7, 036,810.00
TOTAL Funding	\$12,599,131.00

Availability of CDBG-CV funds:

Pursuant to this amendment, Bergen County Community Development will issue guidance detailing the method for applying, requirements for applying and the date on which applications will be accepted for CDBG-CV funds. BCCD reserves the right to distribute CDBG-CV funds in any eligible manner that it deems suitable to be the most expeditious and effective to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus.

In addition, Bergen County Amended the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) on May 14, 2020 via the Bergen County website www.co.bergen.nj.us and publication in THE RECORD newspaper. There were no comments from the public.

**Public Hearing and Opportunity for Public Comment
Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG-CV)
Substantial Amendment to the
CDBG Fiscal Year 2019 Action Plan**

The County of Bergen, through the Division of Community Development (DCD) is proposing a Substantial Amendment to its FY2019 CDBG One-Year Action Plan identifying the addition of CARES Act funding, CDBG-CV. Community Development seeks comments regarding the amendment from all interested parties.

Under the current pandemic public gathering is prohibited and in order to comply with national and local social gathering requirements, the public hearing will be done via teleconferencing. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday October 14, 2020 at 6 pm. Please call in via teleconferencing to telephone number:

201-336-6626 with ACCESS CODE 7894#

The public comment period will start on October 15, 2020 through the close of business on October 20, 2020. The public is encouraged to submit comments via email, directly to cdapp@co.bergen.nj.us at any time during the comment period or comments may also be directed to Angela Drakes, Deputy Director of Community Development, email adrakes@co.bergen.nj.us.