

# PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO HUD 2019-2020 ACTION PLAN

PRESENTATION TO  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 4, 2020



## HOUSING & + PLANNING ○



# WHAT IS THE CITY OF AUSTIN ACTION PLAN?

The **Consolidated Plan** is designed to help states and local jurisdictions to assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions. The consolidated planning process serves as the framework for a community dialogue to identify housing and community development priorities that align and focus funding from the CPD formula block grant programs: **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program**, **HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program**, **Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program**, and **Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program**.

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 by the Consolidated Plan.



# Why is the City of Austin amending its Fiscal Year 2019-20 Action Plan?

- The federal government adopted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, or CARES Act, in April of 2020, which provides additional funding to be deployed through HUD programs to respond to the impacts of COVID-19
- Amending the 2019-2020 Action Plan allows for the deployment of additional funds to respond to the impacts of COVID-19
- Jurisdictions must submit amended plans to HUD to then receive the additional funding



# CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT OF 2020

The CARES Act provided funding to respond to the impacts of the coronavirus to be deployed by HUD through three programs:

1. Community Development Block Grant coronavirus response (CDBG-CV)
2. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV)
3. Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA-CV)



# CARES ACT REGULATIONS FOR EXPEDITED DEPLOYMENT OF FUNDING

Citizen Participation and Public Hearings for Consolidated Plans (including Action Plans): The CARES Act clarifies that grantees may amend citizen participation plans to establish expedited procedures to draft, propose, or amend consolidated plans.

Expedited procedures must include notice and reasonable opportunity to comment of no less than 5 days. In-person public hearings are not required. Grantees may meet public hearing requirements with virtual public hearings if: 1) national/local health authorities recommend social distancing and limiting public gatherings for public health reasons; and 2) virtual hearings provide reasonable notification and access for citizens in accordance with the grantee's certifications, timely responses from local officials to all citizen questions and issues, and public access to all questions and responses.





# Action Plan Amendment Process

## FY 2019-20 Action Plan

- Approved by HUD in fall 2019

## Amend FY 2019-20 Action Plan

- To include CARES Act funding

## Submit Amendments to HUD

- Upon approval by HUD, begin the process of implementing programs to mitigate the economic effects of COVID-19



# Eligible Uses of HUD CARES Act Funding by Program

<b>Community Development Block Grant-CV</b>	May be used to cover or reimburse costs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, regardless of the date on which such costs were incurred, when those costs comply with CDBG requirements.	\$7.2M
<b>Emergency Solutions Grant-CV</b>	Prevent the spread of COVID-19, Provide additional support to individuals and families eligible for Continuum of Care or ESG assistance who are economically impacted by COVID-19	\$10.8M





# PROPOSED PROGRAMMING

## CDBG-CV 3 & ESG-CV 2

ACTIVITY	ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT	FUNDING SOURCE
Emergency Rental Assistance	Housing and Planning	CDBG-CV <b>\$2,262,074</b>
Childcare Services for Essential Workers	Austin Public Health	CDBG-CV <b>\$2,500,000</b>
Small Business Assistance	Economic Development	CDBG-CV <b>\$2,500,000</b>
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	Austin Public Health	ESG-CV <b>\$8,859,249</b>





## EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE – CDBG-CV

- Funding for emergency rental assistance activities will be used for direct rental assistance payments made to landlords
- This program is designed to be a short-term solution and a rapid response to those experiencing financial hardships as a result of COVID-19
- This effort may also help the department in its mission to prevent the displacement of Austin's low-income community members

## CHILD CARE SERVICES – CDBG-CV

- Funding for childcare assistance activities will be used for direct childcare services to sustain jobs of low- to moderate-income essential workers responding to coronavirus
- There continues to be a waitlist for childcare subsidies for over 2,000 children
- Funding will enable eligible essential workers on the waitlist to receive childcare
- This funding will also help to keep childcare facilities operational and low- to moderate-income workers employed



# SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE – CDBG-CV

- Funding for this activity will be used for grants to small businesses negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, for the purpose of creating and retaining employment for low- to moderate-income workers.



## HOMELESS ASSISTANCE – ESG

- The ESG-CV funding will be used to help prevent and respond to the negative effects of coronavirus with programs designed to help individuals and households experiencing homelessness
- The Downtown Austin Community Court will use **\$1,964,830** in funding to provide rapid rehousing services to individuals identified for temporary shelter stays at Protective Lodges during the pandemic
- The City is proposing to use **\$138,632** in administrative dollars to help manage the ESG-CV program
- The remaining **\$8,755,787** in funding will be allocated to provide rapid rehousing, shelter and outreach services





# TIMELINE

TIMELINE	
Nov 23-Dec 4	Online public notice and public comment
Friday, December 4	Community Development Commission Public Hearing; Recommendation
Thursday, December 10	Austin City Council Meeting and action; Public may comment on agenda item
Friday, December 11	Submit Substantial Amendment to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)





Housing and Planning Department

[www.austintexas.gov/housing](http://www.austintexas.gov/housing)