Proposed Substantial Amendment to the City of Westminster's Community Development Block Grant 2019 Annual Action Plan: Acceptance of Third Round of CDBG-CV Funds

As a participating jurisdiction in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the City of Westminster receives annual funding to support programming based on goals and projects established in the City's five-year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans (AAP). In some circumstances, the City is required to amend these plans when established projects are changed or cancelled, or, as in this case, supplemental funds are added for a specific emergency purpose. A substantial amendment is defined in the City of Westminster's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) as changes to the current plan and/or program budget of \$75,000 or more.

The City of Westminster is performing a substantial amendment to the City's 2019 Annual Action Plan to detail the planned acceptance and programming of an additional \$501,479 allocated through the CDBG funds associated with the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These funds, known as CDBG-CV have been allocated in multiple rounds. This substantial amendment is for Tranche 3 funding. This combines with a CDBG-CV allocation of \$371,728 from Tranche 1 for a total CDBG-CV grant of \$873,203.

Proposed CDBG-CV Allocation of Third Round Funding

The City of Westminster has been allocated \$501,479 in additional CDBG-CV funds for Covid-19 emergency response funds and appropriated those funds for programming. Staff has worked to coordinate and provide emergency response programming throughout the pandemic and performed analysis and outreach to service providers to assess the best placement for the additional funds. To that end, staff proposes the following programming of the third round of CDBG-CV funds:

Small Business Stabilization Program \$400,000

The City joined with Adams County Community & Economic Development to provide support to small businesses affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The initial CDBG-CV funds totaling \$371,728 were placed with the program in May, 2020. As this funding has been depleted and additional support is needed, the City will add funding to this successful program, which was approved through an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Adams County on January 25, 2021. For more information, please see www.adcogov.org/small-business-stabilization-program.

CDBG-CV City Utility Assistance \$50,000

CDBG-CV funds will be added to the City's Covid-19 utility bill assistance funds to help residents whose incomes have been impacted financially by the pandemic pay for water and sewer utilities.

Grant funds will be applied to provide additional support to the City's current partnerships working to provide food for residents impacted by the pandemic.

CDBG-CV Voucher Assistance to Unhoused Residents \$20,000

City staff working to assist families and individuals who have lost housing due to the pandemic have identified the need to provide additional motel vouchers to assist unhoused residents during severe weather or those in need of quarantine due to illness.

All CDBG-CV funds are subject to strict federal reporting requirements and performance audits. Additional information on the application of these funds will be provided in the City's 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The proposed substantial amendment will be posted on the City's CDBG webpage: https://www.westminstereconomicdevelopment.org/housing/cdbg/

The City will accept comments and input on the proposed substantial amendment from Monday, February 8 through Monday, February 15, 2021. Please submit your comments to:

CDBG@cityofwestminster.us
or by leaving a voice message at 303-658-2414