



**CITY OF HARRISONBURG
2020 ACTION PLAN (INCLUDING CDBG-CV FUNDING),
AMENDMENT TO THE 2017-2021 CONSOLIDATED PLAN,
AND AMENDMENT TO THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
PUBLIC HEARING/COMMENT NOTICE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

The City of Harrisonburg will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 12th, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 409 South Main Street, in order to receive citizen input regarding the 2020 Action Plan, a substantial amendment to the 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, and an amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan. Citizen participation is essential to the City's involvement in the Federal Department of Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) CDBG Program. Citizen participation and comments on the Consolidated Plan amendment, Annual Action Plan, and Citizen Participation Plan will assist the City in the finalization of these required documents.

The Citizen Participation Plan's proposed amendment contains an alteration to procedures concerning public participation in the event of an emergency. During the current COVID-19 pandemic, the city plans to utilize relaxed federal guidelines to move CDBG funding more quickly through the citizen participation process with the goal of allowing funding to become available as efficiently as possible for those who need it most in the City of Harrisonburg.

The Consolidated Plan serves as the planning document for addressing overall community development and housing needs. In light of the increasing severity of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Harrisonburg is interested in using available CDBG funding to program eligible projects and activities that address this issue. While the level of severity in our community is not fully known at this time, the number of confirmed cases is expected to rise as testing becomes more readily available. To assist in providing public facilities (new, expanded, retrofitted, etc.), special economic development assistance to businesses, public services and/or planning (in some limited cases) that could enhance our community's response to the impact of the pandemic, our community will place a high priority on providing facilities and services in support of a coordinated pandemic response.

The Action Plan serves as the planning document for addressing overall community development and housing needs that will utilize the \$534,269 entitlement of CDBG funding available to the City for 2020-2021. An additional \$88,124 from prior years' funding will be added to this plan. Furthermore, an additional \$314,293 of CDBG-CV funding from the 2020 CARES act in response to efforts surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will be added to the 2020 Action Plan, bringing the total amount of funding addressed in the 2020 Action plan to \$936,686. Projects selected to receive this funding will be included in the Action Plan.

Estimated proposed funding categories include:

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| • Housing | \$164,000 |
| • Public Service Activities | \$144,433 |
| • Economic Development | \$250,000 |
| • Community and Public Facilities | \$271,400 |

- Program Administration \$ 106,853

Final recommendations will be made to the council at the city council meeting on May 12, 2020. None of the proposed categories of activities will result in the displacement of residents.

All citizens and organizations are invited to attend the public hearings to comment orally or in writing on the Annual Action Plan, Amendment to the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, and Amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan. The City of Harrisonburg will make reasonable accommodations and services necessary for sensory-impaired and disabled citizens at the public hearings. Additionally, translation services may be offered upon request and availability. Persons requiring such accommodations/services should contact the city at least three working days in advance of the hearing. Written comments may be mailed to Kristin McCombe, CDBG Coordinator, Office of the City Manager, 409 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Comments may also be submitted by calling (540) 432-8926 or emailing kristinm@harrisonburgva.gov.

In order to obtain the views of citizens, public agencies and other interested parties, the City will place its proposed FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, Amended Consolidated Plan, and Amended Citizen Participation Plan on public display in the following locations during normal operational hours beginning on May 12, 2020:

- City Manager's Office, City Hall, 409 South Main Street, Harrisonburg (pending reopening to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Massanutten Regional Library, 174 South Main Street, Harrisonburg (pending reopening due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- Harrisonburg City website: www.harrisonburgva.gov.

Public comments regarding these documents will be accepted until 9 a.m. on May 21, 2020, the end of the 8-day public comment period.

The City Council is expected to act on the Annual Action Plan for FY 2020, Amendment to the 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan, and amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan on May 26, 2020 at the regularly scheduled Council meeting at 7:00 in City Council Chambers. The final Annual Action Plan for FY2020 will be submitted to HUD for review following the May 26th council meeting, with anticipated approval no later than August 14, 2020.