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CARES Act (CV-2)

Emergency Solutions Grant – CV Substantial Amendment

August 10, 2021

The *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act* (CARES Act) (Public Law 116-136) provided entitlement communities with \$4 billion in supplemental Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funding to prevent, prepare for and respond to the global coronavirus pandemic. This funding is administered by the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). Based on the current entitlement formula used to calculate annual ESG allocations, HUD has notified the City of Utica that it will receive a supplemental allocation of ESG-CV funds totaling \$486,089.00.

In order to access the supplemental ESG-CV funds, the CARES Act requires that entitlement communities submit a Substantial Amendment to HUD through HUD's Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS). Additionally, HUD has asked that entitlement communities amend their latest approved Annual Action Plan. On August 3, 2021, HUD notified the City of Utica that its Program Year 2021 Annual Action Plan had been reviewed and approved; as such, the City of Utica is proposing to amend its 2021 Annual Action Plan to include any and all supplemental CARES Act funding, including ESG-CV, the subject of this notice.

Under ordinary circumstances, the City's Citizen Participation Plan requires that public notice be provided at least thirty (30) days prior to the submission of a Substantial Amendment to HUD. However, in light of the current pandemic, ESG-CV recipients have been given the flexibility to omit the usual citizen participation and consultation requirements and instead publish how it has and will use its allocation online; the posting of this notice at www.cityofutica.com fulfills that requirement.

In developing the plan summarized below for the expenditure of its supplemental ESG-CV funds, the City of Utica consulted extensively with the Mohawk Valley Housing & Homeless Coalition, the area's Continuum of Care. While the first round of ESG-CV funding provided Rent/Mortgage Relief for renters and homeowners, expanded Rapid Rehousing, and assistance to existing emergency shelters that have been impacted by the coronavirus, as a result of that consultation, the next ESG-CV plan addresses an additional priority, including:

- Establishing a 24-hour/day, 7-day/week "low-barrier" shelter system as an alternative for an increasing number of homeless individuals that don't meet intake requirements at any of the City's

traditional shelters. These temporary shelters will provide meals, laundry facilities, beds, lockers for personal belongings, and expanded access to counseling.

| Proposed Activity/Description | Amount |
|---|--------------|
| Temporary Emergency Shelter | |
| To address impacts to existing shelters as a result of COVID-19 – With an increase in the homeless population, clustered loitering in the City’s parks and residential neighborhoods has drastically increased, along with the risk of community transmission of the Delta variant. Establishing three “low-barrier” shelters that offer a combined coverage of 24-hours/day, 7 days/week offers alternatives to clients that don’t meet intake requirements at any of the City’s traditional shelters. | |
| Rescue Mission – Utica Recovery Center | \$179,921.00 |
| Salvation Army - Low-Barrier Shelter | \$168,807.00 |
| Cornerstone Community Church – Morrow Center | \$137,361.00 |
| \$486,089.00 | |

This notice has been posted to the City of Utica’s website: www.cityofutica.com on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. The City intends to submit its ESG-CV Substantial Amendment to its Program Year 2021 Annual Action Plan electronically to HUD no later than Monday, August 16, 2021. Comments on this Substantial Amendment may be e-mailed to Commissioner of Urban & Economic Development Brian Thomas, AICP at bthomas@cityofutica.com.

