



HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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March 19, 2021

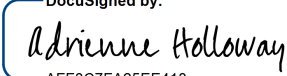
County Judge Hidalgo and
Commissioners Ellis, Garcia, Ramsey and Cagle

Agenda Letter

Please consider the following item on the Commissioners Court Agenda for March 30, 2021:

Approval of amendments to the Harris County PY2021, 2020, 2018 and 2017 Annual Action Plans. A summary of this request is attached for review and approval.

Thank you for your assistance with this request.

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Executive Director

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HARRIS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Annual Action Plan Amendments

March 30, 2021

Background

Harris County Commissioners Court previously approved the Annual Action Plans (AAP). The Annual Action Plans, which are a consolidation of the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) I and III and Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds, were also subsequently approved by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Since HUD approval several changes have been made to projects reported in these documents; and additional CDBG and ESG funding has been made available to Harris County under the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136), authorized on March 27, 2020, for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Substantial Amendments

Substantial amendments in a planned or actual activity or objective change require a 5-day public review period and court approval. A substantial amendment is defined as:

1. addition or deletion of an activity or objective;
2. change in the objective of activity; or
3. change of more than 25% in the dollar amount needed for a project

These amendments were included on a February 26, 2021, public notice. The 30-day public review period has been met, and we are now asking the Court to approve the change to the Annual Action Plan.

2020, 2018 and 2017 CDBG Funding:

Project C2020-023 Harris County Community Services Department – Minor Home Repair Program (Countywide)- Deobligate \$1,305,000.00 in 2020 CDBG Funds. Project is cancelled. Total project funding, including previously awarded amounts, will be \$0.00.

Project C2020-024 Harris County Community Services Department – Health and Safety Home Repair Program (Countywide)- Deobligate \$333,996.00 in 2020 CDBG Funds. Project is cancelled. Total project funding, including previously awarded amounts, will be \$0.00.

Project C2020-045 Harris County Municipal Utility District #148-Lift Station #2 Improvements, Phase 2 (Precinct 1). New Project. Obligate \$554,226.00 in 2020 CDBG Funds. Scope: MUD #148 will assist residents of Greensbrook by performing improvements to increase the capacity of the existing Lift Station No. 2. Total project funding will be \$554,226.00.

Project C2020-046 Harris County Engineering Department-Castlewood Drainage Improvements (Precinct 2). New Project. Obligate \$54,960.35 in 2017 CDBG, obligate \$399,797.17 in 2018 CDBG, and obligate \$756,986.48 in 2020 CDBG Funds. Scope: Harris County Engineering Department will perform drainage improvements by replacing approximately 2.9 miles of asphalt roads and ditches with concrete curb and gutter that includes: underground storm sewer out falling into HCFCD Channel P138-01-00, easements, sidewalks, waterlines, and sanitary sewer relocation/improvements benefiting the Castlewood Subdivision. Total project funding, including leverage fund amounts, will be \$15,724,244.00.

Minor Amendments:

Minor amendments require the Court's approval, but no public review period. The change must be under a twenty-five percent modification in allocation.

PY2021 Annual Action Plan:

On January 12, 2021, Harris County published a public notice for the PY2021 Annual Action Plan for CDBG, HOME and ESG Funds totaling \$12,914,045 which was approved by Commissioner Court on February 9, 2021. The notice stated that Harris County may be required to reduce, increase or de-obligate funding to the recommended PY2021 project allocations should the actual allocation change from the PY2020 amounts. On February 25, 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released Harris County's actual PY2021 funding allocations for the CDBG, HOME and ESG Programs totaling \$20,075,894. The PY2021 allocations for CDBG, HOME and ESG programs increased from the previous program year. The overall increase in program funding across all three programs is \$267,557. This is a one percent (1%) increase to Harris County's overall HUD allocation that was approved by Commissioners Court on February 9, 2021. The additional funding to CDBG, HOME and ESG will be allocated to Harris County's CDBG, HOME and ESG program administration and Unprogrammed Funds. All Unprogrammed Funds will be allocated in accordance with Harris County's Citizen Participation Plan Amendments Policy.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commissioners Court approves the above-referenced changes to the Annual Action Plans.