

RESOLUTION NO. 2021- 59

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO ACCEPT \$950,706 IN SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS, TITLED CDBG-CV3, FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN SF-424 UNIVERSAL APPLICATION AND CERTIFICATION FORM; RECOGNIZING AND APPROPRIATING CDBG-CV WITHIN THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 GENERAL FUND BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SUBMIT A SUBSTANTIAL AMMENDMENT TO THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.**

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, the County prepared a 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan and a 2019-2020 Action Plan for the purpose of submitting an application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and

**WHEREAS**, HUD has awarded the County a 2019-2020 CDBG grant, in the amount of \$930,264, to assist the County in providing benefits to low and moderate income residents in accordance with the 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) has made available supplemental grant funding in the amount of \$950,706 to the County through a CDBG-CV3 award, to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD requires the County to apply for this CDBG-CV3 funding through an amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan and submitting required SF-424 Universal Application and Certification Forms; and

**WHEREAS**, the County did not anticipate receiving CDBG-CV3 during the Fiscal Year 2021 budget process; and

**WHEREAS**, the County must recognize and appropriate the CDBG-CV3 allocation of \$950,706 within the Fiscal Year 2021 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has decided to use CDBG-CV3 funding to develop Public Service activities, to respond to the impact of COVID-19. These activities may include legal aid, eviction assistance, tenant/landlord counseling, rental assistance, subsistence payments, foreclosure prevention assistance, and case management; the County is therefore required to 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan to add a goal for Public Services;

**WHEREAS**, the CARES Act also provides the County with flexibilities that make it easier to use CDBG-CV grants for response to the COVID-19 crisis. The County therefore has amended the Citizen Participation plan to include the HUD-approved waiver of limiting public meetings and the HUD-approved waiver for reducing the Public Comment period for substantial amendments to an Annual Action Plan from 30 days to no less than 5 days. The use of these waivers is intended to make the County more agile in implementing activities in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY:**

1. The above recitals are incorporated by reference into the body of this resolution and such recitals are adopted as findings of fact.
2. The Board of County Commissioners authorizes the Chair to sign SF-424 Universal Application and Certification forms, or any other form provided by HUD that is substantially similar in content to the SF-424 Universal Application and Certification forms, to be submitted to HUD.
3. The Board of County Commissioners recognizes and appropriates CDBG-CV3 of \$950,706 to the Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund Budget.
4. The Board of County Commissioners authorizes the Chair to sign a letter, addressed to the HUD Senior Community Planning and Development Representative, which provides details of the amendments.
5. The Board of County Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator, or his designee, to submit the substantial amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan through HUD's Integrated Disbursement and Information System.

6. To the extent that there are typographical or administrative errors or omissions that do not change the tone, tenor, or context of this resolution, this resolution may be revised without subsequent approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

7. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County  
this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS  
COUNTY

By: Jeremiah R. Blocker  
Jeremiah R. Blocker, Chair

ATTEST: Brandon J. Patty, Clerk of the  
Circuit Court and Comptroller

By: Sam Halter  
Deputy Clerk

RENDITION DATE 2/4/21





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR  
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

September 11, 2020

The Honorable Jeb Smith  
Chair of St. Johns County  
500 San Sebastian View  
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Chair Smith:

I am pleased to inform you of a special allocation to your jurisdiction of Community Development Block Grant funds to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19). This allocation was authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, which was signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020, to respond to the growing effects of this historic public health crisis.

The CARES Act made available \$5 billion in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds. Of this amount, the Department immediately allocated \$2 billion on March 27, 2020, the same day President Trump signed the Act, based on the fiscal year 2020 CDBG formula; this constituted the first round of CDBG-CV funds. Next, \$1 billion was required by the Act to be allocated to States and insular areas within 45 days of enactment of the Act; HUD accomplished this on May 11, 2020, and this constituted the second round of CDBG-CV funds. Finally, the remaining \$2 billion in CDBG-CV funds was required by the Act to be allocated to states and local governments at the discretion of the Secretary on a rolling basis; HUD accomplished this on September 11, 2020, and this constituted the third round of CDBG-CV funds. Additionally, up to \$10 million will be set aside for technical assistance.

Accordingly, this letter informs you that your jurisdiction's allocation for the third round is \$950,706. Your cumulative amount for all allocation rounds is \$1,536,225.

The CARES Act adds additional flexibility for both the CDBG-CV grant and, in some cases, for the annual FY2019 and FY2020 CDBG grants in these unprecedented times. The public comment period is reduced to not less than 5 days, grantees may use virtual public hearings when necessary for public health reasons, the public services cap is suspended during the emergency, and States and local governments may reimburse costs of eligible activities incurred for pandemic response regardless of the date.

In addition, the CARES Act authorizes the HUD Secretary to grant waivers and alternative requirements of statutes and regulations the HUD Secretary administers in connection with the use of CDBG-CV funds and fiscal year 2019 and 2020 CDBG funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment). Waivers and alternative requirements can be granted when necessary to expedite and facilitate the use of funds to prevent,

prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

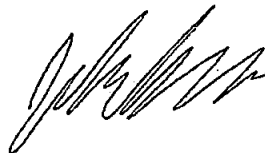
The CDBG CARES Act Federal Register Notice (FR-6218-N-01) was released on August 10, 2020. The notice describes the allocations and grant procedures applicable to the CDBG-CV grants. It also describes the program flexibilities, waivers, and alternative requirements that apply to the CDBG-CV grants as well as the fiscal year 2019 and 2020 CDBG grants. As further such flexibilities become available, they will be posted on HUD's website and distributed to grantees. The Department will also support grantees with technical assistance.

As you develop your plan for the use of these grant funds, we encourage you to consider approaches that prioritize the unique needs of low- and moderate-income persons and the development of partnerships between all levels of government and the private for-profit and non-profit sectors. You should coordinate with state and local health authorities before undertaking any activity to support state or local pandemic response. CDBG-CV grants will be subject to oversight, reporting, and the requirement that each grantee have adequate procedures to prevent the duplication of benefits (DOB). HUD will provide guidance and technical assistance on DOB, the prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse, and on documenting the impact of this program for beneficiaries.

Reminder, all CPD Grantees must ensure they maintain active Dun and Bradstreet Numbering System (DUNS) numbers in the System for Award Management (SAM) system. Entities must have an active and unexpired DUNS before execution of grant agreements to avoid delays in the obligation of funds- which will delay your ability to drawdown funds in the Integrated Disbursement & Information System (IDIS). Grantees are required to maintain an active SAMs registration by re-activating their DUNS number annually in the SAM system for the entire drawdown period of their grants. DUNS numbers can be registered and renewed each year at the following website: <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>.

The Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) is looking forward to working with you to successfully meet the urgent and complex challenges faced by our communities. If you or any member of your staff has questions, please contact your local CPD Field Office Director or [CPDQuestionsAnswered@hud.gov](mailto:CPDQuestionsAnswered@hud.gov).

Sincerely,



John Gibbs  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Community Planning and Development  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



## St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Housing & Community Development

### Public Notice

#### **Proposal to Use CDBG-CV3 Funding to Mitigate Impacts of COVID-19 and a Proposed Substantial Amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan**

St. Johns County hereby gives public notice of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) providing supplemental funding, in the amount of \$950,706, to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The purpose of this supplemental funding is to address impacts of COVID-19.

HUD provides St. Johns County with an annual allocation of CDBG funding to be used for a variety of community development needs. In addition to the annual CDBG allocation, HUD has made available to the County supplemental funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). This funding is to be used specifically for the purpose of preventing, preparing for, and responding to coronavirus.

The CARES Act is the Federal legislation that makes supplemental CDBG funding available and specifies the requirements for the use of this funding. This supplemental funding, in the amount of \$950,706, is referred to as CDBG-CV3. Additionally, the CARES Act provides the County with flexibilities that make it easier to use CDBG-CV3 funding for response to COVID-19. A Public Notice published on April 11, 2020 stated that the County reserved the right to use waivers offered by HUD, if those waivers aided the County in being more agile and efficient in its response to COVID-19.

In regard to planning and use of CDBG-CV3 funding, St. Johns County intends to use the HUD-approved waiver limiting public meetings held for the purpose of informing citizens about the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the CDBG program. Another HUD-approved waiver that the County intends to use is reducing the Public Comment period for substantial amendments to an Annual Action Plan from 30 days to no less than 5 days. The use of these waivers is intended to promote public safety and allow for rapid implementation of activities in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

HUD has informed St. Johns County that a substantial amendment must be made to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan to apply for the CDBG-CV3 allocation of \$950,706.00. Each year, the County is required to submit to HUD an Annual Action Plan that demonstrates how funding will be used for a variety of community development activities. A substantial amendment is required when additional community development activities are added to the Annual Action Plan.

St. Johns County proposes using all CDBG-CV3 funding to develop Public Service activities, to respond to the impact of COVID-19, which may include legal aid, eviction assistance, foreclosure prevention assistance, tenant/landlord counseling, rental assistance, subsistence payments, and case management. The County intends to add these Public Service activities to the

## 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan.

In accordance with the County's Citizen Participation Plan, citizens are encouraged to participate in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the CDBG program. Citizens are encouraged to comment on the use of the waivers mentioned above as well as the proposed amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan.

All questions and comments related to the CDBG program may be mailed to 200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, FL 32084, or emailed to [housing@sjcfl.us](mailto:housing@sjcfl.us), or given verbally by calling 904-827-6890. A written response will be given within 15 days, to all written questions or comments received. The public comment period will end on February 2, 2021.

Current versions of the Citizens Participation Plan and the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan can be viewed at <http://www.sjcfl.us/Housing/CDBG.aspx>. The draft of the proposed amendment to 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan can also be viewed at <http://www.sjcfl.us/Housing/CDBG.aspx>.

Final action will be taken on the proposed substantial amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 2, 2021.

Meetings of the Board of County Commissioners take place in the County Auditorium, located at 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL 32084. Citizens may offer public comments at this meeting. Accommodations have been made to provide for social distancing at meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. Citizens may also offer public comments about the proposed actions via telephone, during this meeting, by calling 904-209-1265. Additional information about call-in participation during County meetings can be found at: <http://www.sjcfl.us/media/MeetingsCV-19.pdf>. Meetings can be viewed on Comcast cable channel 3, or online at <http://www.sjcfl.us/GTV>.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in the CDBG program or in public meetings should contact the ADA Coordinator at 904-209-0650. Deaf and/or hard-of hearing individuals may use Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD): 904-209-0650, or the Florida Relay Service: 800-955-8770. CDBG information is provided in English; the Board of County Commissioners meeting will also be conducted in English. If you require a translator, please call 904-209-0650. To request services, please notify the County at least five business days prior to need for services.



From: [Gina Lombardi](#)  
 To: [Nicola Fiori](#); [Shawna Novak](#)  
 Subject: FW: HUD AWARDS NEARLY \$2 BILLION IN CARES ACT RELIEF FUNDS, FOCUSING ON COMMUNITIES WITH HIGHER RISK OF EVICTION  
 Date: Friday, September 11, 2020 4:15:00 PM  
 Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Looks like more money for St. Johns County – Deldra said she knows nothing more about this, beyond what is in the memo below.

CPD FY2020 CARES Act Formula Grants									
KEY	STA	NAME	04/02/2020 CDBG-CV1	05/22/2020 CDBG-CV2	09/13/2020 CDBG-CV3 Part A	05/12/2020 CDBG-CV3 Part B	04/02/2020 ESG-CV1	06/09/2020 ESG-CV2	04/02/2020 HOPWA-CV
129109	FL	St. Johns County	\$585,519	\$0	\$950,706	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

From: Hembree, Deldra M

Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 4:07 PM

To: Bryan Mosier (bmosier@coj.net); Chynequa D. Brown (chynequa@coj.net); Errol Schell (ESCHELL@coj.net); Julie Ann Rivera (JulieRF@coj.net); Moore, Chiquita; Spradley, Nicole; Stephanie Burch (StephanieB@coj.net); Thomas I. Daly II Esq (tdaly@coj.net); Don Gooding (goodingd@coob.us); FrangoulisMelissa@coob.us; Long, Paula; Greg Lukaski; Joseph Cone; Shawna Novak; Brittany Louis; cabrown@volusia.org; Dawna Parent; dphillips@volusia.org; Edina Toth; ksaylor@volusia.org

Subject: FW: HUD AWARDS NEARLY \$2 BILLION IN CARES ACT RELIEF FUNDS, FOCUSING ON COMMUNITIES WITH HIGHER RISK OF EVICTION

From: HUD Press Office <[HUDPressOffice@hud.gov](mailto:HUDPressOffice@hud.gov)>

Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 1:40 PM

Subject: HUD AWARDS NEARLY \$2 BILLION IN CARES ACT RELIEF FUNDS, FOCUSING ON COMMUNITIES WITH HIGHER RISK OF EVICTION



## HUD NEWS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Ben Carson, Secretary  
 Office of Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20410  
 HUD No. 20-143 FOR RELEASE  
 HUD Public Affairs Friday  
 202-708-0685 September 11, 2020  
[HUD.gov/Press](http://HUD.gov/Press)

### HUD AWARDS NEARLY \$2 BILLION IN CARES ACT RELIEF FUNDS, FOCUSING ON COMMUNITIES WITH HIGHER RISK OF EVICTION

WASHINGTON - United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson today announced the allocation of the remaining \$1.988 billion in CARES Act funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The allocation focuses funds towards places with households facing higher risk of eviction. To date, HUD has provided nearly \$5 billion in CDBG funding nationwide to help communities combat the coronavirus and alleviate economic hardship. "The Trump Administration has maintained that no one should risk losing their home due to the coronavirus," said Secretary Ben Carson. "We've taken several actions since the beginning of this pandemic to keep Americans in their homes. Today, we announce additional aid to the communities that need it the most. These funds can help households struggling to meet their rental or mortgage obligations to stay afloat as our nation continues to recover from the coronavirus pandemic."

These funds can be used to provide temporary financial assistance to meet rental obligations for up to 6 months. The funds are focused toward places with households facing higher risk of eviction. Specifically:

- Communities with high rates of individuals in industries with high job loss in states with high unemployment;
- Communities with high rates of businesses in industries with high job loss in states with high unemployment; and
- Concentrations of those most at risk for transmission and risk of eviction, with higher amounts for states with high rates of coronavirus.

Today's announcement is consistent with the President's August 8, 2020 Executive Order "Fighting the Spread of COVID-19 by Providing Assistance to Renters and Homeowners," which directs HUD to identify "any and all available Federal funds to provide temporary financial assistance to renters and homeowners who, as a result of the financial hardships caused by COVID-19, are struggling to meet their monthly rental or mortgage obligations."

Since President Trump issued that order, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has reiterated the Trump Administration's commitment to minimize displacement and evictions resulting from the COVID-19 global pandemic national emergency. For more information on HUD's response to the novel coronavirus pandemic and the actions the Department has taken, please visit [HUD.gov/coronavirus](http://HUD.gov/coronavirus)

Homelessness service providers and Public Housing Authorities across the Nation have jumped into action to assist those they serve during this unprecedented time. Read more about their stories featured in HUD's *Neighbors Helping Neighbors* campaign, [here](#).

###

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. More information about HUD and its programs is available at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov) and <https://espanol.hud.gov>.

For information about Opportunity Zones visit: <https://opportunityzones.hud.gov/>

You can also connect with HUD on [social media](#) and follow Secretary Carson on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or sign up for news alerts on [HUD's Email List](#).

[HUD COVID-19 Resources and Fact Sheets](#)

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