



## CARES Act Amendment No. 3 2019 -2020 Annual Action Plan

### **Introduction**

As a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) entitlement jurisdiction, the City of Santa Rosa has an adopted 2016 – 2020 Amended Consolidated Plan and an associated Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Action Plan (Action Plan), as required by HUD. The City seeks to further amend the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Action Plan to revise the use of the Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funding provided by HUD under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Sonoma County Health Officer ordered a countywide Shelter-in-Place on March 17, 2020 that includes Santa Rosa; the State of California issued a statewide Shelter-in-Place order on March 19, 2020. The Shelter-in-Place order has not been lifted and directs all residents of California, including residents of Santa Rosa, to shelter at their place of residence except that they may leave to provide or receive certain essential services, engage in certain essential activities, or work for essential businesses and governmental services. Sonoma County has been identified by the State of California as having a widespread infection rate which has limited the reopening of businesses and employees returning to work.

The Shelter-in-Place and cessation of certain businesses has resulted in many residents being furloughed or laid off from their places of employment and therefore being unable to maintain payment for housing costs.

On March 27, 2020, the CARES Act was signed into law, providing additional funding to certain HUD programs. Under the CARES Act, with CDBG-CV1, the City received a supplemental HOPWA allocation of \$65,180 to maintain HOPWA operations and for rental assistance, supportive services, and other necessary actions to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus. As well as \$859,608 in CDBG-CV funds for eligible public services activities. The City did not receive CDBG-CV2 funds. The CDBG-CV3 funds were allocated to communities that have the following characteristics: 1) a high risk of virus spread; 2) large numbers of Very Low-Income Renter households; 3) a high number of businesses that are not reopening or are failing; and 4) communities where employees of the closed and struggling businesses live.

All strategies and activities proposed by this amendment promote one or more of the goals of the 2016 – 2020 Amended Consolidated Plan. Pursuant to HUD guidance, the City proposes amending the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Action Plan as outlined in this Amendment.

## **Consultation**

The CARES Act provided a waiver of the regulatory 30-day public comment period, instead shortening the period to five (5) days. The City's Citizen Participation Plan has been updated to include the waiver.

For the first amendment, the public comment period began on May 5, 2020 and ended on May 12, 2020. The City provided a public notice inviting comments on the draft Amendment in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat and electronically in La Voz Bilingual Newspaper on May 5, 2020. In addition, the City conducted a public hearing on May 19, 2020 to provide an additional opportunity for public comment on this draft Amendment.

For the second amendment, the public comment period began on November 16, 2020 and ended on November 20, 2020. The City provided a public notice inviting comments on the draft Amendment in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat and electronically in La Voz Bilingual Newspaper on November 16, 2020. In addition, the City conducted a public meeting on December 1, 2020 to provide an additional opportunity for public comment on this draft Amendment.

For this third amendment, the public comment period began on June 1, 2021 and ended on June 6, 2021. The City provided a public notice inviting comments on the draft Amendment in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat and in La Voz Bilingual Newspaper. In addition, the City conducted a public meeting on June 22, 2021 to provide an additional opportunity for public comment on this draft Amendment.

## **Public Comment**

The public comment period from June 1, 2021 through June 6, 2021 resulted in the public comments attached in AD-25. Public comments received at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council meeting will be attached in AD-25.

## **Proposed Amendment**

The City prepared and submitted a Substantial Amendment (Amendment No. 1 in May 2020 to incorporate CDBG-CV 1 funds in the amount of \$859,608 and HOPWA-CV in the amount of \$65,180. In Amendment No. 1, the City reallocated the use of its HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) allocation to tenant based rental assistance, security or utility deposit payment assistance in association with rental assistance, and program administration. Amendment No. 1 also reallocated \$472,405 of its FY 2019/2020 CDBG entitlement funds for public services associated with COVID-19 responses. Substantial Amendment No. 1 was approved by City Council on May 10, 2020.

The City prepared and submitted a Substantial Amendment No. 2 in December 2020 to allocate the \$1,281,401 in CDBG-CV-3 funds to rental assistance/housing instability to low income households impacted by COVID-19. Substantial Amendment No. 2 was approved by the City Council on December 1, 2020.

In this Amendment No. 3 to the 2019/2020 Action Plan, the City proposes to reallocate the \$1,281,401 in CDBG-CV-3 funds to public services associated with COVID-19 response. This need has continued to be a pressing social and financial issue for the City of Santa Rosa.

**AP-38 Project Summary**

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| 11 | <b>Project Name</b>  | CV-Public Services Coronavirus Response for Persons Experiencing Homelessness      |
|    | <b>Target Area</b>   | n/a  |
|    | <b>Goals Supported</b>   | Housing and services to special needs populations                                  |
|    | <b>Needs Addressed</b>   | Affordable Housing<br>Homelessness   |
|    | <b>Funding</b>   | CDBG- \$472,405<br>CDBG-CV: \$2,141,009 (CV1 \$859,608 and CV3 \$1,281,401)        |
|    | <b>Description</b>   | Provide assistance and services to income-qualifying persons impacted by COVID-19. |
|    | <b>Target Date</b>   | 6/30/2022  |
|    | <b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b> | 3,473  |
|    | <b>Location Description</b>  | Citywide   |
|    | <b>Planned Activities</b>  | See description.   |
|    |  |  |
| 14 | <b>Project Name</b>  | CV-COVID 19 CDBG Rental Assistance/Housing Instability                             |
|    | <b>Target Area</b>   | No target areas have been defined for the Annual Action Plan                       |
|    | <b>Goals Supported</b>   | Housing and services to special needs populations                                  |
|    | <b>Needs Addressed</b>   | Affordable Housing<br>Homelessness   |
|    | <b>Funding</b>   | CDBG-CV:0  |



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| <b>Description</b>   | Provide housing assistance and related supportive services for low-income persons living using CV funding.          |
| <b>Target Date</b>   | 06/30/2021  |
| <b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b> | Eligible beneficiaries are low-income (80% AMI or less). An estimated 12 households will benefit from this service. |
| <b>Location Description</b>  | Citywide  |
| <b>Planned Activities</b>  | See estimate.   |

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| 15 | <b>Project Name</b>  | CV-COVID 19 CDBG Rental Assistance/Housing Instability Admin |
|    | <b>Target Area</b>   | No target areas have been defined for the Annual Action Plan |
|    | <b>Goals Supported</b>   | Housing and services to special needs populations            |
|    | <b>Needs Addressed</b>   | Affordable Housing<br>Homelessness                           |
|    | <b>Funding</b>   | CDBG-CV: 0   |
|    | <b>Description</b>   | Administration of CDBG-CV3 Program                           |
|    | <b>Target Date</b>   | 06/30/2021   |
|    | <b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b> | N/A.   |
|    | <b>Location Description</b>  | Citywide   |
|    | <b>Planned Activities</b>  | See estimate.  |

Upon approval by the Santa Rosa City Council, Substantial Amendment No. 3 of the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Action Plan is hereby incorporated into the previously approved Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Action Plan for the City of Santa Rosa.