

**Public Notice**  
**Bergen County**  
**Division of Community Development**  
**Consolidated Plan FY 2020-2024 and One-Year Action Plan FY 2020-2021**

The Bergen County Executive James J. Tedesco III hereby announces an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs. The application will fund Bergen County's One-Year Action Plan for FY2020-2021, in an effort to meet the identified needs and objectives outlined in the new Five-Year Consolidated Plan for FY2020-2024.

The Consolidated Plan input of the community assist Community Development in making decisions on behalf of the citizens of Bergen County. The One-Year Action Plan consists of the proposed use of funds to address those needs through the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. The mission of the plan is to enhance the development of viable communities by assisting in the provision of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons who have low or moderate-income.

Bergen County proposes to fund the following projects, totaling \$13,671,533 for FY2020-2021. Included in this amount is \$ 9,464,387 in new CDBG funds. The HOME program includes \$2,868,814 in new funds and \$541,376 in prior year's program income for a total of \$3,410,190. The ESG program includes \$796,956 in new funds.

- The CDBG Program provides funds for community development activities including, but not limited to, public infrastructure improvements, housing activities, economic development, job training programs and public service activities.

Public Facilities & Infrastructure	5,474,843
Public Service	1,038,842
Public Housing Modernization	379,111
Housing Rehabilitation	46,550
Economic Development	64,300
Homeowner Rehabilitation Program	567,864
Planning & Administration	1,892,877
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,464,387</b>

- The HOME Program provides funds for down payment and/or closing cost assistance for homebuyers, the construction or rehabilitation of single or multi-family housing units along with other types of housing assistance, principally for low- and moderate-income residents or for special needs housing.

Homebuyer Construction	140,000
Rental Construction	429,000
Direct Homebuyer Assistance	1,489,969
Direct Rental Assistance	1,064,340
HOME Administration	286,881
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,410,190</b>

- The ESG Program provides funds for emergency shelters, homeless prevention/rapid rehousing activities, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) administration, and other activities for homeless individuals and families.

Emergency Shelter	175,000
Homeless Prevention/Rapid Rehousing	537,434.30
Homeless Management Information System	24,750
ESG Administration	59,771.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>796,956</b>

The *Annual Action Plan*, as with the new *2020 – 2024 Consolidated Plan*, is an integrated document that describes the interdependent yet collaborative strategies of each entitlement jurisdiction within the context of the entire County. The specific investments are presented according to the five year goals that they are intended to impact. Housing and Homeless goals and strategies are presented countywide. Other community development strategies specific to each municipality are presented independently; allowing each municipality to respond to the individual needs within the community with its CDBG funds.

The allocations presented here are the result of a community wide notification, application, and review process by the regional committees. The process has been unique to each committee, such as application review, presentations and recommendations of funding.

In compliance with HUD Memos, dated March 31, 2020 and April 9, 2020, the following amendments were proposed by the County of Bergen Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), for FY2015-2019 Consolidated Plan/FY2019 Action Plan and FY2020-2024 Consolidated Plan/FY2020 Action Plan. The amendments were set up in response to disaster and emergency preparedness, specifically in response to COVID-19, under the CARES Act. The amendments were published in THE RECORD and on the County's website [www.co.bergen.nj.us](http://www.co.bergen.nj.us) on May 14, 2020 and there were no comments from the public.

#### **Citizen Participation Plan Amendments:**

- Addition of disaster response and declaration of emergency the public comment period will be reduced from 30 days to 5 days.
- Addition of the qualification for Substantial Amendments in the event of a disaster or declaration of emergency
- Amendments to the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant- COVID (CDBG-CV) that meet the Substantial Amendment general reduced notice and comment period to accommodate swift allocation of funds. Additionally, the public hearing will be facilitated by the most feasible means at the time (ex: virtual or telephone call-in meetings in lieu of public gatherings and social distancing). Meetings must still accommodate and provide information to those with vision and hearing impairments to the best extent feasible.
- These new provisions are not only applicable to CDBG funding from the CARES Act but many of the new provisions are also applicable to FY2019 and FY2020 CDBG funding. The broad applicability provides grantees with flexibility to help address the challenges facing the nation.

**Under the current pandemic public gathering is prohibited and in order to comply with national and local social gathering requirements, the public hearing will be done via teleconferencing. The public hearing on the Draft Action Plan FY 2020-2021 proposed projects will be held on August 12, 2020 at 6 pm. Please call in via teleconferencing to telephone number:**

**201-336-6626 with ACCESS CODE 7894#**

**The public comment period will start on August 13, 2020 through the close of business on August 19, 2020.** The public is encouraged to submit comments via email, directly to [cdapp@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:cdapp@co.bergen.nj.us) at any time during the comment period or comments may also be directed to Angela Drakes, Deputy Director of Community Development, email address [adrakes@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:adrakes@co.bergen.nj.us)

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