

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS
TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, NEW JERSEY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
To All Interested Persons, Agencies, Organizations and Groups**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Township of Edison has completed its first draft of the 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, 2020 Annual Action Plan, updates to the Citizen Participation Plan and updates to the Analysis of Impediments and Language Action Plan for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The summary of the proposed grant budget is below.

In order to obtain the views of residents, public agencies and other interested parties, these documents will be on public review from October 20, 2020 – October 28, 2020; after which time the plans will be considered by the Township Council for submittal to HUD for approval. Due to the current public health crisis, these documents will be available on the Township website: www.edisonnj.org

The Township of Edison is also holding a Virtual Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 4:00pm via the Zoom platform to consider the proposed FY2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY2020 CDBG Annual Action Plan. Given the current public health crisis, a virtual hearing is being held in lieu of an in-person hearing. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to speak during this hearing to verbally submit their public comment. The log-in information for the Virtual Public Hearing is below:

Visit this address to enter via computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82484067664?pwd=RUIBVkgzckhMcW9vOVkvU2lnRk9mQT09>

Dial in to enter via phone:

+1 929 205 6099

This Meeting ID is 824 8406 7664 and the Passcode is 057648.

Funding availability for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Year 2020 begins July 1, 2020. The Township of Edison expects to receive \$594,016.00 in 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds, \$222,228 in unused 2019 CDBG Funds, \$349,440.00 in CDBG CV1 CARES Act Funds and \$884,324 in CDBG CV3 CARES Act Funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

To receive the funds, a Five-Year Consolidated Plan that includes a housing and homeless needs assessment, a housing market analysis, and a strategic plan must be completed and filed with HUD. The One-Year Action Plan for PY 2020 will also be included and will reflect the resources and activities that address Edison's housing and community development needs that are identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan; and the plan will also reflect the activities that the Township will be undertaking to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus-related needs in the community. In addition, the Township is also preparing updates to their Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, Language Access Plan and Citizen Participation Plan.

All interested individuals and organizations are invited and encouraged to attend these public hearings. Persons interested in attending the hearings who require interpretive assistance (i.e. – hearing impaired

or non-English speaking), or other accommodation, shall notify the Edison Township Division of Housing & Community Development at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting in order to make the appropriate arrangements, notify Joann Morado at 732-248-7359 or jmorado@edisonnj.org.

Written comments may be provided via email to Joann Morado, Division of Housing & Community Development, at jmorado@edisonnj.org. Written comments must be received by October 28, 2020.

SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR 2020 PROGRAM YEAR

RESOURCES:

The Township expects to receive the following resources from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development:

2020 CDBG Entitlement:	\$594,016
2019 CDBG Entitlement Unused Funds:	\$222,228
CV1 CARES ACT FUNDS:	\$394,440
CV3 CARES ACT FUNDS:	\$884,324

PROPOSED 2020 CDBG BUDGET:

Public Services:	\$99,000
Housing:	\$151,625
Public Facilities:	\$447,816
Fair Housing:	\$10,000
<u>General Administration:</u>	<u>\$108,803</u>
Total:	\$816,244

PROPOSED CARES ACT FUNDING BUDGET:

COVID-19 Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program:	\$1,110,387
<u>General Administration:</u>	<u>\$123,376</u>
Total:	\$1,233,764

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

The Township has also completed an update and amendment to their Citizen Participation Plan. The Citizen Participation Plan amendment proposed includes additional detail on substantial amendment requirements and responds to 2020 CARES Act waivers which state that in emergency circumstances, in-person public hearings are not required. The grantee will make a good faith effort to provide an opportunity for the public to participate using whatever means are available, including electronic communications and virtual meetings. Grantees may meet public hearing requirements with virtual public hearings if: 1) national/local health authorities recommend social distancing and limiting public gatherings for public health reasons; and 2) virtual hearings provide reasonable notification and access for citizens in accordance with the grantee's certifications, timely responses from local officials to all citizen questions and issues, and public access to all questions and responses.

Additionally, in the current emergency circumstances, expedited procedures must include at least (5) five days' notice prior to the hearing and reasonable opportunity to comment of no less than (5) five days. The 5-day period can run concurrently for comments on the action plan amendment and amended citizen participation plans. This authority is in effect through the end of the 2020 program year.