



# CITY OF BETHLEHEM

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[www.bethlehem-pa.gov](http://www.bethlehem-pa.gov)

## Memo

To: Adam Waldron, Council President  
From: Alicia Miller Karner, Director, DCED  
CC: Robert Donchez, Mayor  
Date: December 11, 2020  
Re: 2019 Substantial Amendment CDBG

The Department of Community and Economic Development is recommending a Substantial Amendment to the 2019 CDBG Action Plan.

In accordance with CDBG program regulations, the City is allowed to make substantial amendments to its Annual Action Plan and Budget in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan.

In response to the COVID-19 infectious disease disaster, the City of Bethlehem has received \$649,643 of entitlement funds through the Federal CARES Act. It is necessary to incorporate the CARES Act into the FY 2019 Action Plan in order to receive and implement the funds. The new activities will become part of the FY 2019 Action Plan using funds to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19 in the City of Bethlehem. This is considered a substantial amendment in accordance with Bethlehem's Citizen Participation Plan as the following applies: *7. Criteria for Amendment to Programs 3. Activities proposed to be added or deleted from the plan.*

The amendment to the FY 2019 CDBG Annual Action Plan is proposed as follows:

<b>CARES Act – 2<sup>nd</sup> Round - \$649,643</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Business Assistance	\$364,000
Housing Assistance	\$151,643
Homelessness Support	\$5,000
Program Administration	\$129,000

There is also a request for change to the first round of CARES Act funding pertaining to a specific allocated activity. The original amendment approved June 3, 2020 # 2020-091 included:

<b>Source-Activity</b>	<b>Budget</b>
CARES Act-Non-profit Operational Support	\$135,000

The City of Bethlehem now proposes to amend the allocation activity from Non-profit Operational Support to:

<b>Source-Activity</b>	<b>Budget</b>
CARES Act-Public Service Support	\$135,000

In order to obtain the views of residents, public agencies and other interested parties, the City of Bethlehem has placed the Substantial Amendment on public display beginning December 4, 2020, on the City's website at the following address: <https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Community-Economic-Development/Community-Development/CDBG-Home>.

The Substantial Amendment can also be mailed or emailed upon request sent to the contact listed below.

The City is implementing a HUD issued waiver on the duration of the public comment period for the substantial amendment process. In compliance with this waiver, this document will be available to the public for a period of five (5) days, after which time the Substantial Amendment will be considered by Council for submittal to HUD for approval. Inquiries will be processed during normal business hours.

Please consider these proposed changes and the attached resolution at the Tuesday, December 15, 2020, council meeting.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-**

WHEREAS, Federal regulations allow the City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as a HUD entitlement community, to prepare an Amendment to the Community Development Block Grant Program Action Plan to accept activities and funds through the CARES Act; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bethlehem has prepared a Substantial Amendment to the 2019 Action Plan and made it available to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM:

1. That the Action Plan for FY 2019 for the City of Bethlehem for the period from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, is hereby approved.
2. That the Mayor of the City of Bethlehem is authorized to provide the necessary assurances and certifications to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and to submit the FY 2019 Action Plan for HUD approval.

Sponsored by: /s/ \_\_\_\_\_

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted by Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 .

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
President of Council

ATTEST:

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk