



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: City Council Regular Session **MEETING DATE:** March 2, 2021
FROM: Mike Null, Assistant City Manager
SUBJECT: First Public Hearing to take recommendations for a CDBG-CV Coronavirus Cycle grant application with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

BACKGROUND

The City of Green Cove Springs is considering submitting an application to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant in the Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Application cycle. A total of \$41,931,595.00 is being made available through a competitive application process to local governments who are eligible to participate in the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program within the State of Florida. The minimum amount a community may apply for is two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00), the maximum amount a community may apply for is five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00). The City may submit only one application for a single project or program.

These funds must be used for projects that meet the following threshold criteria:

1. Project activities must meet at least one of the following National Objectives:
 - Benefit to Low-and-Moderate Income Persons (LMI) individuals and/or households, including:
 - Indirect benefit activities – at least 51% of beneficiaries must be LMI; or
 - Direct benefit activities – 100% of beneficiaries must be LMI.
 - Prevention or elimination of slum and blight – see 24 CFR §570.483(c); or
 - Address an Urgent Need – see 24 CFR 570.483(d).
2. Project activities must prevent, prepare for, or respond to the coronavirus, and should demonstrate a:
 - Direct effect: Costs directly associated with coronavirus prevention, preparation, or response, (e.g. rehabilitation of building to create additional quarantine and isolation rooms for recovering COVID-19 patients).
 - Indirect effect: Economic and housing market disruptions (e.g. small business assistance).

Examples of some of the activities which can be applied for include but are not limited to the following:

- Rehabilitate a facility for testing, diagnosis or treatment of Covid-19.
- Acquire and rehabilitate, or construct, a group living facility that may be used to centralize patients undergoing treatment.
- Installation of wiring, fiber optic cables, and permanently affixed equipment such as receivers for areas to receive broadband/internet access.
- Rehabilitate a senior center, community center or homeless shelter by replacing the HVAC system

and/or installing air purification system.

- Acquisition and/or rehabilitation of a building to expand capacity of homeless shelters to accommodate social distancing and isolation.
- Installation of wi-fi routers/extenders in affordable housing buildings for LMI residents.
- Provide testing, diagnosis or other services at a fixed or mobile location.
- Provide equipment, supplies, and materials necessary to carry-out a public service (e.g., childcare for working parents with distance learning school kids).
- Deliver meals on wheels to quarantined individuals or individuals that need to maintain social distancing due to medical vulnerabilities.

The range of activities that may be undertaken will be provided at the public hearing. In developing an application for submission to DEO, the City must plan to minimize displacement of persons as a result of planned CDBG-CV activities. In addition, the City is required to develop a plan to assist displaced persons.

FISCAL IMPACT

TBD

RECOMMENDATION

Subject to Council Direction