Public Notice
CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS

The City of Rome Community Development Department is proposing to amend BOTH the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan and the 2019 Annual Action Plan for use of the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement (CDBG) funds. This amendment is in accordance with 24 CFR 91.05(c)(2) and subpart B of the federal regulations relative to citizen participation for CDBG programs, and applicable waivers made available to those requirements through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

As part of this amendment, the City has revised the Consolidated Plan’s Citizen Participation Plan to include the 5-day comment period and virtual hearing allowed as expedited review by a HUD waiver due to COVID-19. Both the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan (which includes the 2019 Action Plan) and the amended Citizen Participation Plan are found on the City of Rome web page at the following link: https://romefloyd.com/departments/community-development

Public Comment Period and Process:
This Consolidated Plan/Action Plan/Citizen Participation Plan amendment is available for a 5-day public review and comment period from May 1, 2020 through May 5, 2020. Citizens wishing to submit written comments during the public review and comment period may email them to bfox@romega.us or mail them (postmarked no later than 5/5/20) to the following:

City of Rome Community Development Department
Attention: Bekki Fox
P.O. Box 1433
Rome, GA. 30162-1433

Background:
The City of Rome Consolidated Plan details the funding strategies for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the period between 2019 and 2023. The Annual Action Plan outlines the implementation of annual funding, which is developed through significant public input, analysis, and planning from both stakeholders and citizens of Rome, GA.

Proposed Substantial Amendment and Proposed Use of Funds:
The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded the City of Rome additional CDBG funds through the CARES Act for $258,026 to help combat the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposed use of the new funds is to create a small business emergency assistance grant program that will provide up to $5,000 for eligible businesses that retain or create one job for a low/moderate income employee. The funds must be used for day-to-day businesses expenses (such as rent, mortgage, utilities and other fixes costs). Eligible businesses must show a 30% decline in revenue during the pandemic period. Other eligibility criteria will apply.

Public Hearing:
A VIRTUAL public hearing will be held via ZOOM on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 2:00 PM. The link will be posted on the City’s web page and social media sites. Persons with special needs relating to disability access, vision impairment, hearing impairment and/or language barriers should contact Bekki Fox (706)236-4477. The hearing impaired may use the Georgia Relay Service at 1-800-255-0056.