



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development
Felicia Medlen, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution to set January 5, 2021 Public Hearing - December 15, 2020
DATE: November 30, 2020

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

The Community and Economic Development Department requests that a Public Hearing be set for January 5, 2020 on an amendment to the City of Tacoma’s 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan (AAP).

BACKGROUND:

This Department’s Recommendation is Based On:

The City’s obligation to submit an AAP to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as required to receive entitlement funding. The AAP outlines the uses of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. Periodically, changes to submitted AAPs are necessary. Depending on the significance of the change, the City must implement a “substantial amendment” process.

The City has received \$1,372,676 in CDBG CARES Act (CDBG-CV) emergency assistance to be made available in response to the circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, on January 12, 2021, the City Council will receive a request to approve an amendment to the City of Tacoma’s 2019-2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020) AAP, which incorporates the spending plan for CDBG-CV funds.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Eligibility criteria for CDBG-CV grant activities are set by HUD. Households and small business owners earning 80% or less of Pierce County’s Area Median Income (AMI) will benefit from the programs funded with this additional grant. All efforts will be made to ensure that historically underrepresented populations are aware of program requirements and benefits.

Five business days prior to the public hearing, beginning on December 28, 2020 and ending on January 4, 2021, the City will publish a legal ad in The News Tribune notifying the public of the opportunity to make verbal comment on the proposed amendment. As a HUD grantee, the City is required to respond to written comments. A summary of public comments and why the comments were accepted or rejected will be attached to the amendment prior to its submission to HUD.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The coronavirus pandemic has created unforeseeable circumstances for the City and its residents to respond to. The intention of CDBG-CV emergency funds is to respond to those circumstances, which we know are disproportionately impacting the city’s most vulnerable populations and small businesses. The City is required to comply with its CPP to implement the proposed amendment to the 2019-20 AAP, which incorporates the spending plan to deploy CDBG-CV emergency funds.



Civic Engagement: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

Representation at public meetings will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

In accordance with the City’s Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) for substantial amendments responding to COVID-19 impacts, notice of the proposed change is published in the newspaper five business days prior to implementation. The City Council allows public comment at a regularly scheduled Council meeting before acting on the substantial amendment to an approved Consolidated Plan. This public comment opportunity takes the place of a formal public hearing. A summary of public comments and why the comments were accepted or rejected will be attached to the amendment prior to its submission to HUD.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Not hold a public hearing		This alternative would put the City out of compliance with its CPP and cause the City to not implement the proposed amendments.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Each program will track the demographic information of households and businesses served. Program outcomes and expenditures will be reported in the city’s Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends setting date for the public hearing at the close of a five-day public comment period, as required by the City of Tacoma’s CPP.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
TOTAL			



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

What Funding is being used to support the expense?.

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

Choose an item.

N/A

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

Choose an item.

N/A

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

Choose an item.

N/A

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

Choose an item.

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

None