



STAFF REPORT ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

To: Mayor Gavin Buckley
From: Sally Nash, Director of Planning & Zoning
Date: June 15, 2020
Subject: R-34-20, Community Development Block Grant Program – 2020 Amended Citizen Participation Plan

Following the requirements of federal law, the City of Annapolis is amending its Citizen Participation Plan as it relates to the administration of the Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs funded by HUD. This Citizen Participation Plan presents the City's plan for providing for and encouraging all citizens to participate in the development, revision, amendment, adoption, and implementation of:

- The Citizen Participation Plan (CPP)
- The Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH)
- The Consolidated Plan (CP)
- The Annual Action Plan (AAP)
- The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), and
- The Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the flexibility provided under the CARES Act, the City of Annapolis is amending its Citizen Participation Plan to promote and support "social distancing" while continuing to offer the public an opportunity to provide valuable citizen input and insight into the policies, and procedures of its Community Development Block Grant Program. Therefore, the following changes are to be made to the current plan:

- Virtual or web-based hearings as an allowed method for citizen participation;
- Updates to the types of declared disasters or emergency events such as terrorism or infectious diseases (i.e. the recent Coronavirus 19/COVID-19 pandemic) that may necessitate accelerated substantial amendments;
- Details on proposed actions that may be undertaken to respond to "urgent needs", resulting from disasters or emergency events; including the reprogramming of funding and types of possible activities;
- Provisions for waivers relative to "Consolidated Plan" citizen participation and the Community Development Block Grant.
- Reducing the required comment period from 30 days to 5 days.

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