

**TOWN OF GREECE
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)
PROPOSED USE OF SUPPLEMENTAL COVID-19 FUNDS**

As a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been authorized to provide supplemental funding to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, through the implementation of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES Act). The CARES Act allows for these funds to be utilized to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the impacts of the crisis.

The Town of Greece will receive an anticipated \$ 250,480 in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus funds (CDBG - CV) from HUD for use in the Town's 2019 program year, which began August 1, 2019.

As a result, on Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6:15 p.m., the Town of Greece is proposing substantial amendments to its previously approved 2019 CDBG Annual Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan to allow for the acceptance and use of the supplemental CDBG-CV funds from HUD. The proposed change will be considered in the Eastman Room at the Greece Town Hall, One Vince Tofany Boulevard, Greece, New York.

The opportunity for residents to provide their written comments and thereby participate in Greece's CDBG Program, is pursuant to Section 104 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1997, as amended, and the 1983 Housing and Urban/Rural Recovery Act (Public Law 98-181).

The following activities, fund allocations, and amendments are proposed in order to allow for the Town of Greece to receive and utilize CDBG-CV funds from HUD:

1. Amendments to the 2019 Annual Action Plan to include the following activities/programs:
 - a) 2020 Small Business Assistance Program - \$100,000 - This project consists of the establishment and implementation of a small business assistance program to provide grants of up to \$5,000 to about 20 of Greece's small businesses. Grants will offer assistance to businesses' working capital expenses which will help continue business operations and retain employees.
 - b) Business Assistance Revolving Loan Fund - \$100,000 - This project consists of the Town of Greece establishing a long-term business assistance revolving loan fund. The monies generated by the interest and repayment of funds would be utilized to provide loans to local businesses to continue business operations, retain employees, and to expand.
 - c) Public Works Improvements - \$50,480 - This project consists of additional funding for the improvement of a residential street located within Greece's Community Development target area: Bennington Drive. Improvements will include upgrading the condition of the roadways, including gutters and sidewalks alongside the road. This project was previously authorized by the Town's 2019 CDBG Annual Action Plan.
2. Amendments to the Town's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan as it relates to providing citizens with reasonable notice and opportunity to comment:
 - a) Allowing for a waiver process to reduce the public comment period to not less than five (5) days when authorized and approved by HUD to expedite and facilitate the use of CDBG-CV funds, as permitted by the CARES Act.
 - b) Allowing for the use of virtual public hearings and meetings when necessary for public health reasons.

A breakdown of amendments to the 2019 Annual Action Plan by type of activity shows that the

largest percentage of funds, eighty (80%) percent, will be allocated for economic development initiatives. Twenty (20%) percent has been allocated for public facilities/works improvements.

Written comments should be directed to: Community Development Block Grant Program; Town of Greece; One Vince Tofany Boulevard; Greece, New York 14612. Telephone inquiries should be directed to John T. Caterino, CDBG Administrator/Planner, at 585-723-2432, email address: jcaterino@greeceny.gov