

August 4, 2020

Columbia City Council

Dear City Council:

On behalf of the City of Columbia Housing and Community Development Commission (HCDC), I am providing an update on the development of the HCDC's FY2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program funding process and CDBG-CV (CARES Act Funding) for unsheltered populations.

FY 2021 is the 2nd year of the City's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and has experienced changes from years past due to the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The HCDC typically completes its annual RFP process that includes an in-depth analysis of proposal viability and alignment with City goals each spring. The onset of COVID-19 has delayed our annual process for formulating funding recommendations. Both FY 2021 CDBG and HOME allocations and CDBG-CV allocations for unsheltered populations will be considered at the HCDC's August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, which is typically completed in early June.

To date, the HCDC has received letters of intent from organizations for both FY 2021 CDBG and HOME funding and CDBG-CV funding. There have been \$2,067,219 in intended requests submitted for the estimated \$975,000 in FY 2021 CDBG funding available. There have also been \$1,110,000 in intended requests submitted for the estimated \$600,000 in FY2021 HOME funding available. The HCDC has also received \$95,000 in intended requests for the available \$70,000 in CDBG-CV funds for increased services to nonprofits serving unsheltered populations.

The HCDC will be analyzing data, reviewing proposals, assessing project risk and formulating funding recommendations for Council at its August 26, 2020 meeting. Final funding recommendations will be included and referenced in a budget amendment sheet prior to Council's final approval of the City's FY 2021 City Budget in September. There are many important priorities and growing needs that our community desires to be addressed with CDBG and HOME funds. The HCDC will be working hard to ensure funding recommendations are completed in a fair and efficient manner that maximizes its impact to low to moderate income households and neighborhoods.

I will be attending the City Council budget hearing to take any funding considerations the Council may have as we finalize recommendations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,  
DocuSigned by:

*Blaine Regan*

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Blaine Regan

Housing and Community Development Commission, Chairperson