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Substantial Amendment 7 to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan

Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus (CDBG-CV)



Prepared by:

City of Jackson
Community Development Department
161 W Michigan Ave
Jackson MI 49201
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Substantial Amendment 7
to the
2019-2020 Annual Action Plan,
Year Five of the
2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan

Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (CDBG-CV)
Loomis Park Benches and Walking Trails

Executive Summary

On March 27, 2020, President Trump signed the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act*, a \$2 trillion economic relief package to protect the American people from the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The package specifically set aside \$5 billion in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus (CDBG-CV). The first \$2 billion in CARES Act funding for CDBG grantees was distributed using the 2019 formula allocation, of which \$756,020 was earmarked for the City of Jackson. A second round of funding was provided to states only in May 2020 with a third round made on September 11, 2020 in which the City received an additional \$189,425. An eligible use of CDBG-CV funds is to create, expand, or enhance public facilities to increase their long-term resiliency and ability to mitigate future coronavirus outbreaks, or other similar viral pandemics. Although currently experiencing a reduction in cases, it is incumbent upon the City to ensure its residents, especially the most vulnerable brackets of seniors and children, remain healthy by mitigating the effects of future coronavirus occurrences.

General Information

Grantee Name:	City of Jackson, Michigan	
Department Administering Funds:	Community Development Department	
Contact:	Cory Mays, Grant Coordinator 161 W Michigan Ave Jackson, MI 49201 (517) 768-6461 cmays@cityofjackson.org	
Authorized Official	Daniel Mahoney 161 W Michigan Ave Jackson, MI 49201 (517) 788-4028 dmahoney@cityofjackson.org	
Website:	www.cityofjackson.org	
Amount of CDBG-CV Funds:	\$756,020	Round 1 April 2, 2020
	<u>\$189,425</u>	Round 3 September 11, 2020
	\$945,445	Total CDBG-CV Funds

Action Plan Amendments

IDIS #	Allocations	Original Amount Funded	Recaptured Balance
1745	Boos Center HVAC	\$319,425.00	\$93,107.13
1754	Loomis Park East Trail	\$336,324.00	\$5,703.00
1724	CDBG-CV Admin.	\$60,000.00	\$17,215.84
	Total:	\$715,749.00	\$116,025.97

Reallocated to:

Loomis Park Benches & Walking Trails	\$116,025.97
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IDIS Matrix Code: 03F – Parks, Recreational Facilities

Description: Addition of concrete pads, with steel benches bolted into the pad (some handicapped-accessible), with sidewalks in between to connect bench locations, placed far enough apart to encourage social distancing, and to provide a place of rest for folks walking/enjoying the park. This would occur at the South end of Loomis park. This expansion will provide supplementary open, outdoor exercise areas to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and prepare for potential future outbreaks.

National Objective: Low/Mod Area (LMA) 24 CFR 570.208(a)(1)
Activities providing benefits that are available to all the residents of a particular area, at least 51% of whom are low/mod income. The service area encompasses a one-half mile radius of Loomis Park, with a low/mod percentage equating to 63.84%

Budget: **\$116,025.97**

Proposed Project

Use of CDBG-CV funds must always tie back to “prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus now and in the future.” Research has shown that an individual’s physical and mental well-being can be improved through access to and use of tools to increase exercise and physical activity. Physical activity benefits the body by boosting immune function necessary to fight off infection and is especially important during a pandemic. In addition, physical activity helps to boost mood, strengthen bones and to prevent and manage chronic conditions. Additional studies have shown that individuals who spend more time outdoors have lower levels of anxiety and depression than those who remain indoors. Improving Loomis Park to expand its trail system will provide tools for the surrounding neighborhoods to prevent and prepare for further surges of coronavirus or other similar viral outbreaks.

The remainder of the City’s CDBG-CV funds will be re-allocated to provide funding for additional upgrades to Loomis Park. The upgrades will consist of all necessary grading and installation of a metal benches with concrete pads (some handicapped-accessible), with sidewalks in between (where needed) to connect bench locations and create additional walking/exercise opportunities. Benches and sidewalks will be installed along Michigan Avenue between Gilbert and Edgewood (benches), Edgewood between Michigan Avenue and Homewild (benches and some sidewalk), Gilbert between Michigan Avenue and Homewild (benches and some sidewalk), and Homewild between Edgewood and Gilbert (benches and some sidewalk).

Service Area

National Objective – LMA

Loomis Park is located in the middle of Census Tract 4, Block Group 5. According to the 2024 Low/Mod Income Summary Data (LMISD), the percentage of low- to moderate-income residents in this area is 83.51%. The park’s service area is not limited to Census Tract 4, Block Group 5; in fact, it is a very popular recreation destination for residents in the surrounding area. The picture below demonstrates low- to moderate-income areas surrounding the park in green. One block to the east of the park is the John George Home whose elderly, indigent residents take great delight in using the park as well as the many families in this densely populated area. Census Tract 4, Block Group 5 has historically been designated as a low- to moderate income area. The green block groups surrounding the park, range in percentage of low- to moderate-income residents from 40.00% to 81.25%.

Citizen Participation

Notice of the Substantial Amendment and September 24, 2024 public hearing was published in the *Jackson Citizen Patriot*. Hard copies of the Substantial Amendment were distributed to the following locations for review:

City of Jackson
Community Development Department
161 West Michigan Avenue, 3rd floor
Jackson, MI 49201
(517) 788-4060

Jackson District Library
Carnegie Branch
224 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201
(517) 788-4087

City of Jackson
City Clerk's Office
161 West Michigan Avenue, 1st floor
Jackson, MI 49201
(517) 788-4025

Community Action Agency
1214 Greenwood Avenue
Jackson, MI 49203
(517) 784-4800

Shahan-Blackstone North Apartments
109 Shahan Drive
Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 787-0218

Reed Manor
301 Steward Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201
(517) 787-1188

Chalet Terrace
316 Barberry Drive
Jackson, MI 49203
(517) 787-1850

An electronic copy of this Substantial Amendment was also available on the City's website at www.cityofjackson.org/332/Grant-Reports. The public comment period began on August 22, 2024 and ends on September 24, 2024. The public was afforded an opportunity to provide comments directly to the Grant Coordinator and/or through the public hearing before the Jackson City Council at its regular meeting on September 24, 2024.

At the September 24, 2024 public hearing, comments were received from one individual and included a request for clarity related to the amendment. No comments were received during the 30-day public review and comment period.