

**PUBLIC NOTICE
FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS
ESG-19 COVID SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

Fort Bend County has been allocated \$936,303 in ESG COVID-19 Program funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136. Fort Bend County proposes to amend its approved FY 2019 Consolidated Action Plan. The Consolidated Plan regulations at 24 CFR 91.505 state that a jurisdiction shall amend its approved plan whenever it makes one of the following decisions:

- (1) To make a change in its allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds;
- (2) To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the consolidated plan (including program income), not previously described in the action plan; or
- (3) To change the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity.

In addition, Fort Bend County has identified in its citizen participation plan the criteria it uses for determining what constitutes substantial amendments that are subject to a citizen participation process, in accordance with the County's citizen participation plan. The definitions and/or criteria of what constitutes a substantial change for the purpose of amending the consolidated plan are as follows:

- (1) Purpose: The purpose is substantially changed if the overall purpose for which a project is funded changes. Changing a specific objective without changing the overall purpose of the project will not be considered a substantial change.
- (2) Scope: The scope is substantially changed if the original estimated cost of the project is increased by twenty percent or more.
- (3) Location: The location is substantially changed if the service area of a project changes from the original service area.
- (4) Beneficiaries: The beneficiaries are substantially changed if there is a change in type or the number is increased by twenty percent or more.

The Fort Bend County FY 2019 Consolidated Action Plan ESG COVID-19 Amendment is available for public comment. The public is encouraged to submit written comments by Monday, May 11, 2020 to Marilyn Kindell, Community Development Director, 301 Jackson, Suite 602, Richmond, Texas 77469 or email comments to communitydevelopment@fortbendcountytexas.gov. Comments will be incorporated into the Consolidated Action Plan ESG COVID-19 Amendment, as appropriate.

The purpose of ESG COVID-19 grant is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus by providing temporary emergency shelters (through leasing of existing property, temporary structures, or other means) and additional support to individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus. Eligible homelessness activities include emergency shelter operations, especially sanitation supplies (bleach, wipes, scrubbers, mops, linens, towels, sanitizer, tissues), furnishings (cots, room dividers), equipment (washers, dryers, portable handwashing stations), transportation (train or bus tokens, taxi or rideshare for medical care); street outreach including sanitation supplies (sanitizer, soap, tissue, masks, other protective equipment), expanded shelter staffing to support infectious disease preparedness.

Other ESG COVID-19 eligible activities in support of the public health response to COVID-19 include providing housing assistance to:

- homeless persons and families exiting congregate and non-congregate shelters;
- homeless persons, especially those with COVID or awaiting COVID test results;
- persons or families (<50 of MFI) with COVID, awaiting COVID test results and/or quarantined with loss of income;
- persons or families (<50 of MFI) with loss of income due to Coronavirus closure order; and
- HMIS costs related to coordinated access and ESG COVID-19 reporting.

Fort Bend County is issuing an intent to participate to interested non-profits and local governments for the ESG COVID-19 Program funds. The Fort Bend County ESG COVID-19 Intent to Participate will be available on Wednesday, May 6, 2020. Questions from interested non-profits and local government can be submitted to Carol.Borrego@fortbendcountytexas.gov. The intent to participate forms and attachments must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2020. For more information, please call Carol Borrego at (281) 341-4410.