



**TOWN OF ARLINGTON**  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING and  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager

From: Jennifer Raitt, Director, Planning and Community Development  
Erin Zwirko, Assistant Director, Planning and Community Development

Date: April 13, 2020

RE: Draft Report to Town Meeting (Community Development Block Grant Funding Program Year 46) and CDBG allocation via the CARES Act

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Attached please find the draft Report to Town Meeting for endorsement of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for CDBG Program Year 46, FFY20.

Applications were received in January 2020 for funding requests for the next fiscal year, which were reviewed by the CDBG Subcommittee during meetings on February 7 and February 13, 2020. A 30-day public comment period began on February 27, 2020, and recently ended on March 30, 2020. During the public comment period, a public hearing was held on March 9, 2020. At this time, the CDBG funding allocations are presented to the Select Board for approval.

On March 27, 2020, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). As part of the Act, CDBG entitlement communities were awarded an additional allocation of funding: CDBG-CV. Arlington was awarded \$659,903 to be used in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Funding will be available following Arlington's receipt of the grant contract expected in early May. The CARES Act provided additional federal funds for those most in need and also provides for waivers of statutory requirements related to funding limitations and statutory timelines.

The CDBG Subcommittee met on April 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed substantial amendment to the PY19 Annual Action Plan in order to program CDBG-CV funds and reprogram PY18 funds. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires entitlement communities to undertake a substantial amendment of the current fiscal year's Annual Action Plan. Waivers are available to shorten the timeline of a substantial amendment to ensure that these funds can be utilized as soon as possible. As such, the Department of Planning and Community Development does not recommend altering the funding allocation for the upcoming fiscal year in light of the coronavirus pandemic.

We look forward to your comments and feedback on the draft Report to Town Meeting and will be available to answer questions you may have about CDBG-CV funding.