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CITY OF BRISTOL
BOARD OF FINANCE AGENDA REQUEST FORM

To: Board of Finance Commissioners

From: Economic & Community Development
(Requesting Department)

Date: June 15, 2020
(Submission Date)

For the June 23, 2020 Board of Finance Meeting Agenda
(Date of Meeting)

This request is for:
(Please check the type of request and list in whole dollar amounts)

☒	Additional Appropriation	$ 393,989
☐	New Appropriation	$
☐	Transfer from Contingency	$
☐	Transfer(s)	$
X	Grant	$ 393,989.00
☐	Carry-over(s)	$

Approval:

ECD Board Approval 6/4/20; City Council Approval 6/12/20

(Department Head's signature)

All requests to appear on the Board of Finance meeting agenda for consideration must be submitted to Jodi McGrane in the Comptroller's Office by 10:00 a.m. Monday of the preceding week of the meeting. Board of Finance Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Board of Finance Agenda Request Form

Reason for request:

The City of Bristol has been awarded a CARES Act grant in the amount of $393,989.00 from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development to address the Covid-19 pandemic. The Economic and Community Development Dept. recommended using the funds to assist St. Vincent De Paul Mission to expand services to homeless people at risk of catching and spreading the virus, and the City Council voted to approve this proposal on June 12, 2020 by amending the City's CDBG Annual Action Plan for 2019-2020.

Account	Account Name	Amount
1044105 - 431722-G2020	CDBG CARES Act Grant	$393,989.00
1044105-585012-G2020	St. Vincent De Paul Covid Pandemic	$393,989.00

Transfer(s) complete the following:

From:	To:	Amount:
From:		Amount:
From:	To:	Amount:

Grants:

Total Amount: Grant $ 393,989.00

City Share $ _____ 0 %

Federal/State Share $ 393,989.00 100 %

Carry-overs list the following:

Account	Account Name	Amount

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

April 2, 2020

The Honorable Ellen Zoppo-Sassu
Mayor of Bristol
111 North Main Street
3rd Floor
Bristol, CT 06010

Dear Mayor Zoppo-Sassu:

I am pleased to inform you of a special allocation to your jurisdiction of Community Development Block Grant funds to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19). This allocation was authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, which was signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020, to respond to the growing effects of this historic public health crisis.

The CARES Act made available $5 billion in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds. Of this amount, the Department is immediately allocating $2 billion based on the fiscal year 2020 CDBG formula. The remaining $3 billion shall be allocated based on needs using best available data, in the following tranches: $1 billion shall be allocated to States and insular areas within 45 days of enactment of the Cares Act, and $2 billion shall be distributed to states and local governments at the discretion of the Secretary. Up to $10 million will be set aside for technical assistance. Given the immediate needs faced by our communities, the Department has announced the first allocation of funds. Your jurisdiction's allocation is $393,989.

The CARES Act adds additional flexibility for both the CDBG-CV grant and, in some cases, for the annual FY2020 CDBG grants in these unprecedented times. The public comment period is reduced to not less than 5 days, grantees may use virtual public hearings when necessary for public health reasons, the public services cap is suspended during the emergency, and States and local governments may reimburse costs of eligible activities incurred for pandemic response regardless of the date.

In addition, the CARES Act authorizes the Secretary to grant waivers and alternative requirements of statutes and regulations the Secretary administers in connection with the use of CDBG-CV funds and fiscal year 2019 and 2020 CDBG funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment). Waivers and alternative requirements can be granted when necessary to expedite and facilitate the use of funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

The Department is developing a notice that will further describes the CARES Act's provisions, a Quick Guide to the CARES Act flexibilities and other provisions, and other resources

to enable swift implementation of CDBG-CV grants. As these become available, they will be posted on HUD's website and distributed to grantees. The Department will also support grantees with technical assistance.

As you develop your plan for the use of these grant funds, we encourage you to consider approaches that prioritize the unique needs of low- and moderate–income persons and the development of partnerships between all levels of government and the private for-profit and non-profit sectors. You should coordinate with state and local health authorities before undertaking any activity to support state or local pandemic response. CDBG-CV grants will be subject to oversight, reporting, and requirements that each grantee have adequate procedures to prevent the duplication of benefits. HUD will provide guidance and technical assistance on DOB and regarding prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse and documenting the impact of this program for beneficiaries.

The Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) is looking forward to working with you to successfully meet the urgent and complex challenges faced by our communities. If you or any member of your staff has questions, please contact your local CPD Field Office Director or CPDQuestionsAnswered@hud.gov.

Sincerely,

John Gibbs
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Community Planning and Development
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development