

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MA
CDBG-DR SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT #2

Jurisdiction(s): Springfield, MA	Contact Person: Tina Quagliato Director, Office of Disaster Recovery
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As a result of several presidentially declared disasters in 2011 (DR-1994, DR-4028, DR-4051) the City of Springfield was allocated \$21,896,000 in CDBG-DR funds under the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-2) and subject to guidance provided by HUD on March 5, 2013 (FR-5696-N-01). In accordance with that guidance, this is an amendment to the City of Springfield's Partial Action Plan A, which was approved by HUD on December 14, 2013.

This is the second Substantial Amendment that makes three changes to Springfield's CDBG-DR Action Plan A.

Change #1: Expansion of Eligibility Criteria for the Business Recovery Loan Program

The Business Recovery Loan Program was made available to the public in December, 2014 and no applications have been approved to date. The City and Common Capital, the sub-recipient administering the loan program, initially identified 80 businesses that were directly impacted by the June 1, 2011 tornado within the City's target area. Common Capital has performed outreach to all of the identified businesses and has found that 60% have either not re-opened or not returned to the targeted impact area. This has created a significant loss of job opportunities within the direct disaster impact area. In order for this area and its residents to fully recover from the disaster, replacing the lost job opportunities and lost businesses is necessary. In order to replace the lost job opportunities and/or create additional job opportunities for the residents of the target area the City is expanding the eligibility criteria in order to assist:

- New businesses locating within the direct impact target area that will create new job opportunities for residents.
- Existing businesses within the direct impact target area that were not directly impacted, but need funding in order to retain existing jobs for residents and/or will create additional jobs for residents.

Change #2: Increase Maximum Award for Homeowner Repair Program

The City has performed inspections in homes that still remain damaged and has been working with potentially eligible applicants for the current Homeowner Repair Program. The updated information has allowed the City to develop more thorough understanding of the extent of the individual homeowner unmet needs and lead paint abatement needs, additionally the City has determined that the ongoing disrepair in the four years since the disaster has exacerbated the

original damage from the disaster. Based on this additional information the City has made the determination that it is reasonable and necessary to expand the Maximum Award from \$50,000 per homeowner to \$100,000 per homeowner.

Change #3: Updating and Creating New Redevelopment Activity “Activity #7”

Updated Description: The City has undertaken the proposed enhanced economic development and planning study of key locations where infrastructure and other dollars were planned to identify sites for redevelopment. Based on this study and additional data, this amendment will create a new activity for this program. It will include acquisition and demolition of property along the Central Street Corridor, which is necessary for expansion of infrastructure and expansion of Ruth Elizabeth Park, both of which were directly impacted by the June 1, 2011 tornado.

Additionally, the City will acquire property within the South End for the purposes of expanding existing road infrastructure, and additional land for the new South End Community Center, both of which were directly impacted by the June 1, 2011 tornado.

Funding: New Activity #13 – Central and Marble Street Acquisition and Infrastructure Improvements will be funded in the amount of \$1,456,363. The following two activities will be reduced to fund this new activity: Revise Activity #7-Redevelopment, to deduct \$456,363.00 leaving a balance of \$43,637 and revising Activity #8-Streets and Sidewalks to deduct \$1,000,000 leaving a balance of \$4,070,000.

Updated Outcome: Expansion of public parks, community center and infrastructure

Updated Geographic Area: District 1 and District 2

Updated Expected Leverage: State and Federal grant funding (EPA, EDA, Massworks) and City bond funding.

Requirements Related to Changes

LMI National Objective: The changes in this amendment to Partial Action Plan A will still ensure that at least 50% of grant funds will still be dedicated to activities that meet with Low/Mod Income national objective.

Administrative, Planning and Management Costs: The changes in this amendment to Partial Action Plan A will not increase administrative costs by more than five percent (5%) of the total grant amount. Overall planning, management and administrative costs will remain less than twenty percent (20%) of the total grant amount.

Citizen Participation: The amendment was published in accordance with the Partial Action Plan A and the Citizen Participation Plan and met the following requirements:

- Publication in Spanish and English on the City’s website.
- Publication in Spanish and English in the Republican Legal Notices on September 5, 2015.
- A comment period for the required seven days from September 5, 2015 to September 12, 2015.
- Submission of comments were allowed as follows:
 - Electronically on the City’s CDBG-DR website at www.springfield-ma.gov/planning/cdbg-dr
 - Written comments mailed to the Office of Disaster Recovery & Compliance, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103
 - Via email to tquagliato@springfieldcityhall.com
 - By telephone contacting 311, the City of Springfield’s main source of government information and non-emergency services or the Office of Disaster Recovery & Compliance at (413) 750-2114.

The City has received 0 comments regarding this amendment. The final version of the amendment has been published in English and Spanish on the City’s website.

Budget: These changes do not impact the existing Partial Action Plan A budget.