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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## St. Johns County Community Development Block Grant Proposed Substantial Amendment to the 2020/2021 Action Plan

**Notice to Citizens:** St. Johns County receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds as an entitlement community. This program is administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the benefit of low/moderate income residents. St. Johns County uses CDBG funds within the unincorporated areas of the County and within the city limits of St. Augustine Beach. The County prepared a five-year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans as required by HUD to receive CDBG funding. At this time, St. Johns County is considering a Substantial Amendment to the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan associated with the 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan.

Funding for 2020-2021: This Substantial Amendment is to repurpose unexpended CDBG funds originally approved as follows:

- \$198,913 for Planning and Administration; reducing the allocated amount by \$28,565.30
- \$121,434.70 for infrastructure/LAP; reducing project by the full amount.
- \$121,434.70 funding for JALA to assist in the public services and counseling for households with incomes below 80% of the area median income and facing homelessness.
- \$28,565.30 funding for JALA to assist in the public services and counseling for households with income below 80% of the area median income and facing homelessness.

With the proposed amendment to the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan, the following amounts are recommended to be allocated for projects:

- \$150,000 for improvements to Jacksonville Area Legal Aide.
- Note: based on the waiver allowance associated with the increase of the Public Service cap for CDBG the 15 percent cap has been lifted for public services that prevent, prepare for, or respond to coronavirus.

**Public Comment Period:** As required by HUD, the proposed Substantial Amendment to the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan is available for review Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the Health and Human Services Department, 200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, FL 32084. Additionally, the proposed Substantial Amendment can be viewed on the St. Johns County website: <a href="http://www.sjcfl.us/Housing/index.aspx">http://www.sjcfl.us/Housing/index.aspx</a>. The public is encouraged to comment on the proposed Substantial Amendment from September 19, 2022 through October 18, 2022. Comments from the public will be accepted at the Health and Human Services Department at 200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, FL 32084. Comments can also be given by calling 904-827-6890 or emailed to <a href="https://www.sjcfl.us">housing@sjcfl.us</a>. A written response will be given within fifteen (15) days, to all written comments received. For additional information, please call 904-827-6897.

**Public Hearings:** Two public hearings regarding this proposed Substantial Amendment are scheduled. The first hearing will be held on September 30, 2022, Friday at 4:00 p.m. at the Health and Human Services Department located at 200 San Sebastian View, Muscovy Conference Room (First floor); St. Augustine, FL 32084. In addition to the topic of the proposed Substantial Amendment to the 2020 - 2021 Annual Action Plan, at this meeting the County will facilitate sufficient time for presenting

information and discussion on the Substantial Amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan and the 2018 – 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. The second public hearing shall be held as the **Final Action** associated with the Substantial Amendment to the 2020 – 2021 Annual Action Plan (see below).

**Final Action:** The Substantial Amendment to the 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan is scheduled for Board action on October 18, 2022, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, at 9:00 a.m., in the County Commission Chambers, 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida 32084.

For persons needing special accommodations to view CDBG documents or participate in these proceedings, please see the notice below. The public hearings will be conducted in English. If you require a translator, please call 904-209-0650. To request services, please notify the County at least five business days prior to each meeting.

**NOTICE TO PERSONS NEEDING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS AND TO ALL DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PERSONS**: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in these proceedings should contact the ADA Coordinator at (904) 209-0650, or at the County Administration Building at 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida 32084. For deaf and/or hard of hearing individuals: Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD): (904) 209-0650, or the Florida Relay Service: (800) 955-8770.

