

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION PLAN
FOR THE CONSOLIDATED STRATEGY AND PLAN
FOR THE CITY OF GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI
Amended by City Council May 19, 2020**

**DISASTER ADDENDUM
CDBG CARES ACT
CORONAVIRUS (COVID19)**

On April 9, 2020, The Department of Housing and Urban Development released the guide, “Cares Act Flexibilities for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds Used to Support Coronavirus Response as a result of the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) which was signed on March 27, 2020. “In addition to urging all States and localities not to wait to apply for their allocations, the memorandum grants a waiver for plan amendments with instruction on how a grantee may submit amendments for allocated CDBG Funds.

As a result of these approved amendments and waivers the City of Gulfport will amend its Citizens Participation Plan to include an addendum specifically for the usage of funds related to the above act. The following changes to the City of Gulfport Citizen Participation Plan will remain in effect as long as the specific waivers are active.

Citizen Participation Reasonable Notice and Opportunity to Comment

Minimum 5-day period for notification and comment period to run concurrently for comments on the proposed Action Plan amendment and amended Citizen Participation Plan.

In-person public hearings are not required. Grantees and Participating Jurisdictions may meet public hearing requirements with virtual public hearings or notifications if: 1) national/local health authorities recommend social distancing and limiting public gatherings for public health reasons, and 2) virtual/website hearings or notifications provide reasonable notification and access for citizens in accordance with the grantee’s certifications, timely responses from local officials to all citizens questions and issues and public access to all questions and responses.