CITY OF GULFPORT

PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT
For Prior Years Action Plans 2019, 2020, 2021
and Proposed Use of CDBG
funding for 2022 and 2023
5-Year Consolidated Plan Citizen Input
HOME ARPA 2021 Plan Citizen input

The City of Gulfport is proposing to reallocate its prior years unused CDBG 2019, 2020 and 2021 funding and anticipates utilizing its future annual 2022 and 2023 CDBG Allocations for a new project, Urban Renewal Streetscape Improvements. The proposed project is located in and around the neighborhood known as the "Quarters".

Gulfport City Council Designation:

<u>April 3, 2018</u> – City Council designated Urban Renewal Areas within the City, declaring blighted areas under the Urban Renewal Act.

<u>May 8, 2018</u> – City Council designated and approved an Urban Renewal District for "the Quarters Historic Minority Business District and Empowerment Zone".

<u>August 18, 2020</u> – City Council approved the Urban Renewal Plan for the Quarters Historic Minority Business District and Empowerment Zone Project 2018.

<u>September 8, 2020</u> – City Council designated and approved the expansion of the Gulfport Main Street Association Boundaries to include the Quarters Historic Minority Business District and Empowerment Zone area.

Scope of Work:

The City proposes to utilize CDBG funding for infrastructure and street improvements, such as drainage, street paving, sidewalks, curbs, streetlights, safety lighting, signage, and landscaping, engineering, design, environmental review. All CDBG construction will be within the City's right-of-way, with no proposed easements or acquisitions.

The proposed scope will be performed in phases, as funds allow, over the next two to three years.

Phase I – Engineering, Design, Environmental Review (for the entire district)

Construction:

18th St to 21st Street (between 30th Ave and 33rd Ave)

31st Ave, 32nd Ave, Tom Cat Alley, Paradise Alley

(between 18th St and 21st St)

Phase I and Phase II will expand out from the above areas and be determined by funding allowance.

Location of Proposed Areas:

(Map Attached)

Proposed CDBG Budget Amendments

2019	CDBG Grant Balance	\$ 560,480.00
2020	CDBG Grant Allocation	\$ 722,195.00
2021	CDBG Grant Allocation	\$ 736,607.00
2022	CDBG Grant Allocation	\$ 780,718.00
2023	CDBG Grant Allocation (unknown)	\$

Total Proposed CDBG

\$2,800,000.00

CDBG National Objective and Eligibility

To be eligible for CDBG funding a project must first meet at least one of three National Objectives.

- · Benefits to Low and Moderate Income Persons
- Prevention and or Elimination of Slums and Blight
- Meeting other Community Needs having a particular urgency (i.e., Hurricane, Coronavirus)

Eligibility- Proposed scope is eligible under 24 CFR 570.201(c) - Eligible Activities

Documenting Low and Moderate Income Benefits

- Low and Moderate Income Area (Service Area must be at least 51% low and moderate income residential, based on the latest census data provided by <u>HUD</u>. The neighborhood characteristics within the designated district, and includes one block on either side are:
 - Residential 56%
 - Commercial 9%
 - Houses of Worship 3%
 - Undeveloped Lots 32%
- The latest data utilized by HUD is the American Community Survey 2013-2017 updated 5/21/2021 in HUD's Integrated Disbursement and Information Software. The included census data map was derived from HUD CPD Mapping system, which indicates a service radius around a beginning point (Gulfport Job Corp site) and calculates the Census Tracts and Block Groups within the service area.

Total Overall Low and Moderate Income Area = 66.01% LMA
Total population 2045
Total Low/Mod Population 1350

Census Tract 002300 Block Group 1

87.76% LMA

Total Population

490

Total Low/Mod Population 430

Census Tract 002300 Block Group 2

53.52% LMA

Total Population

795 505

Total Low/Mod Population

Census Tract 002300 Block Group 3

54.61% LMA

Total Population

760 415

Total Low/Mod Population

Other Proposed Activities within the service area, not utilizing CDBG funding.

- Reconstruction of the Gulfport Job Corp School -3300 20th Avenue.
 Approximately \$30 million to rebuild this school destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, funded by the Department of Labor. Construction is underway with completion in 2024.
- Urban Renewal Plan for the Quarters Historic Minority Business District, adopted by City Council in May 2018, and the Greater Downtown Urban Renewal Improvement District adopted in August 2020.

City Justification for utilizing CDBG funds for proposed project and location

The City is aware that CDBG funding can be utilized in low and moderate-income neighborhoods as designated by Census Tract Block Group as approved by HUD Low and Moderate Income Summary Data (LMISD) Council. Currently the City has seven (7) Council Wards, and 6 of the 7 wards have designated low- and moderate-income areas (LMA) as per the latest HUD IDIS census data updated 5/21/21 and recertified on 6/15/22. Historically the City has spread its CDBG project funding within the eligible low and moderate-income areas, with the majority distributed between Wards 1 and Wards 3, the two Wards with the highest concentration of low and moderate-income minority neighborhoods. Over the past 20 years both Ward 1 and Ward 3 have received the bulk of the CDBG funding with \$4,590,672.00 and \$5,118,598.00 respectively.

In 2018 the City designated six areas of the City as slum and blight with a need for renewal. One of those areas was the Quarters in Ward 1. The service area encompasses three census tracts and block groups. Overall, the area is 66.01% low and moderate-income citizens. The largest concentration of CDBG proposed scope of work is in located in Census Tract 002300, Block Group 1 with 87.76% low and moderate income. The Quarters neighborhood district has not received any CDBG funding, or at least in the last 25 years as per documented records. The City proposes to utilize available multi-year CDBG funding to make an impact on the neighborhood at one time, versus doing a street at a time over numerous years.

The City has heard the numerous citizens' concerns on the need to split the funding, as it always has in the past, and acknowledges that there are other areas of the city just as deserving of assistance and there are other neighborhoods that may not have received prior CDBG funding or have not been assisted in several years. This is not a "money grab" for funding over one area or numerous areas of the city, nor is it a permanent utilization of CDBG funds, just the city utilizing enough funds to make a difference. In order to ensure that the city continues to receive these annual funds, the current funds must be expended.

Citizen Participation and Public Hearing

A Public Hearing on the Proposed CDBG Substantial Amendment, along with proposed input into the 5-Year Consolidated Plans for CDBG and HOME and the proposed usage of HOME ARPA 2021, is to be held on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>June 30</u>, <u>2022</u>, <u>at 6:00 p.m</u>. in the City Council Chambers, 2309 15th Street, Gulfport, MS.

For those persons who may require special accommodations, please contact us at least three days prior to public hearing at 228-868-5705, ext. 6545. Comments and surveys may be submitted to Community Development in writing to 1410 24th Avenue, Gulfport, MS, or email to community development@gulfport-ms.gov. Notices and surveys are available on the City of Gulfport Website at www.gulfport-ms.gov. Public hearing notice advertised in the Sun Herald on 6/21/22. In addition the City mailed over 250 notices to addresses within the Quarters neighborhood and to 60 citizens, local governments, non-profits and businesses on the department's mailing list.

Citizen Comments

A public hearing was held on June 30, 2022 between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. 40 people attended, as well as City of Gulfport representatives: Ella Holmes-Hines, Councilwoman Ward 3; Mr. Kenneth "Truck" Casey, Councilman Ward 1; Karen McCarty, Federal Programs Administrator; Sheena Robinson-Gill, Grants Accounting Specialist; and Wayne Miller, Director of Public Works.

The minutes from the meeting are attached.

Written comments and surveys received:

To date 153 written comments were received with the same sentiment. (sample of several comments attached). All comments and surveys will be submitted to HUD with the Substantial Amendment and 5-year plan through it's internet portal "IDIS – Integrated Disbursement and Informational System".

(A) Five Year Consolidated Plan

Opposed changing 5-year consolidated CDBG plan for one (1) community the "Quarters

Project". Please address senior, youth, infrastructure, housing repair, anti-crime programs and job creation.

(B) CDBG Substantial Amendment

We are opposed to taking all the 2019-2021 funding for economic development to go to the "Quarter Project". We support the CDBG funding to be split evenly between both majority minority low to moderate income wards (Ward 1 and Ward 3).

(C) HOME ARPA 2021

Home ARPA 2021 should go to assist women/children, domestic violence, rental assistance, homeless prevention and housing counseling.

Surveys (5-year Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment and HOME ARPA needs assessment).

The city received 8 completed surveys for the Consolidated plan and 9 surveys for the HOME ARPA funding.

The overall consensus for the 5-year consolidated plan was that the highest needs for the City were all the types of community facilities, infrastructure, special needs services, community services, neighborhood services, businesses, jobs, and housing. Specific priorities were reliable transportation, affordable senior housing, upgrading infrastructure, and return recreation centers to the neighborhoods.

HOME ARPA – Of the 9 surveys returned (citizens), the views ranged from (majority) high priority for all eligible activities, (development of affordable housing, rental assistance, services and non-congregate housing), to the lowest priority for non-congregate housing and rental assistance.

Public Hearing June 30, 2022 Minutes

Meeting held at 2309 15th Street Gulfport City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Over 41 people attended the meeting. 41 signed the attendance sheet, but several attendees did not. Each attendee received a package that contained the agenda, overview of the 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan, overview of CDBG and HOME Programs, eligible activities of each program, city ward map with low income designated areas, survey for consolidated plan input, overview of proposed CDBG Substantial Amendment, HOME ARPA survey and Citizen Comment Sheet.

Below is an overview of the minutes to the meeting. The meeting was recorded and notes taken by Community Development staff. Due to more than one person talking at a time and not identifying themselves, most commenters are identified as Citizen.

- Karen McCarty explaining the HUD programs and the main goals of the HUD Programs.
- Karen McCarty gives examples of what CDBG funds can be used for.
- Karen McCarty talks about the current HOME program for first time homebuyers.
- Ella Holmes- Hines asks about requirements and income restrictions for homebuyers program.
- Karen McCarty explains all requirements for HOME program.
- Karen McCarty talks about the Consolidated Plan & Action Plan, and the survey that needs to be completed to return to HUD.
- Karen McCarty talks about the amount of funding that is received from CDBG from 2019 until now.
- Karen McCarty tells the public about the city purposing to do drainage, street paving, sidewalks, curbs, streetlights, safety lighting, signage, and landscaping in what we call The Quarters Historic Minority Business District and Empowerment Zone.
- Kenneth Casey explains to public how the Quarters used to be a thriving community.
- Kenneth Casey tells the business owners that this funding is not the same as the facade funding that some of them have filled out applications for already.
- Kenneth Casey explains to public that we are here because we have to have a public hearing so the public can fill out the paperwork, and get their feedback as to how they think the CDBG funding should be spent.
- Kenneth Casey says he has his mind set on developing the Quarters, it shouldn't be blighted.
- Citizen #1 asks why is the CDBG funding only going to one location? Throughout his life he's always known it to be split up. Why can't it be split up like it's always been? Citizen

also asks are developers coming in? Citizen says it is very unfair to take all the funding and put in one location. The last meeting he went to, it was stated that the plans were to connect the Quarters to downtown, then it will be a business district. Then next it will be gentrified.

- Kenneth Casey states that it is about rebuilding the black businesses in the Quarters.
- Citizen #1 states that the CDBG funds should be spent on rebuilding the houses and infrastructure for residents, not for businesses. Citizen states that it is not right to take all that money and put in one location.
- Citizen #2 says to Casey you say this decision has already been made, so we are here to decide if you are going to get all of our money?
- Casey responds with yes the council has already voted on it, but the final decision has not been made, and to fill the paperwork out to return to HUD. This will let them know who supports it and who doesn't support it.
- Citizen #2 states that we all are in blighted areas. I am happy that the Quarters is getting this money to beautify around the Job Corp, but what about the Soria City & Magnolia Grove kids? When they leave Job Corp with all that beauty, they have to see all the blight in the neighborhoods. They don't have community centers, parks, or sidewalks to walk on. This is unfair
- Citizen #3 I have worked with grants before, Ward 1 should not get all that money. Ward 3 needs problems with flooding fixed. You say it has been decided, but everything can be amended. We need to be reasonable here, Job Corp is being funded from another source so that 3 million has nothing to do with the Job Corps.
- Citizen #4 this funding should not go to all one place. I live in North Gulfport, and when it rains like it did last night, all the water from Hwy 49 goes up under my house. I've leveled my house twice, and it needs to be done a third time.
- Citizen #5 I took this map and walked the area, you are proposing to bring the quarters back, most of the property there is owned by investors, that actually either want to buy or sell. The project that you say is a come-up will benefit very few people that live in the Quarters. That money is really going to aid investors. This has zero benefit to the ones who live there.
- Citizen #6 This funding needs to go towards Ward 3. I have water coming in my house when it rains heavily.
- Citizen #7 First of all you all said you have made a decision, the council, and I don't see all the council members here, second of all it has this hearing been posted in the paper, third of all can you tell me the number of businesses in the quarters? I used to work for the city for leisure services, and we did a lot of parks for the kids, but most of them have been taken from us. Same thing for the community centers, you can't even rent the building because the cost is so high.

- Citizen #8 the merger should've been done because we need help in our community but you guys still ignoring us. It's a shame we can't get people on the board of anything. You guys want to keep us divided and arguing.
- Citizen #9 We been having the conversation since Harbor Square, money was supposed
 to come to The Quarters, Soria City, and Turkey Creek, but the money never came. If we
 are only lifting up one community what good is that? We need to go back to the drawing
 board. Maybe we need to sit down and see what we can do to help all these
 communities. This meeting is kind of late, we should have a meeting before plans are
 made.
- Citizen # 10 I'm an accountant why can't we split this money up to help all of us. As a black business woman. Where is that money? As a resident Where is that money? As a non-profit where is that money? I life in North Gulfport. I'm tired of splashing in puddles to get home.
- Citizen #11 How did we come about CDBG money in the first place? If they looked at all the blighted area to come up with the sum of money we receive why can't that money go back to all the blighted areas?
- Citizen #12 If this is not a done deal what is the next step?
- Karen McCarty answers with filing out the paperwork and getting the input of the
 community as to what they think the city needs. Then it will be sent to Jackson and they
 review it. Jackson will tell the city ok you have done everything you needed to do, the
 city can do it this way and why they are doing it this way. City Council still has the final
 say so. Deadline 10/31 but we will have to extend that.
- Ella Holmes-Hines explains that she will not stand for Ward 3 not receiving any funding at all. I support the Quarters, I also support Magnolia Grove Village Green, North Gulfport East and West side. I have a brand new school in North Gulfport, they want sidewalks. I have North Park and by the time they finish it will be worth over 30 million dollars they need the water off the street so they can get to the 30 million dollar homes. Everyone in the community needs something, you can't just give the money to one community. I'm not against the Quarters, but a zero to Ward 3 will not happen will I'm breathing. If I let Ward 3 have zero what type of leadership is that? Karen gets to this point every year and every year! give her my list twice a year. When I get angry enough I send it to HUD in Jackson, but this time I have a democratic president. I can do something with this one. It should be we do it the way we have always done it and we share the money. Giving all the money to one place is not the way we do it in African-American communities. I have 10 community neighborhoods. We keep saying the council has already approved it, the council has not approved it. The things that happened in 2018, 2020, there was no money assigned to anything then. This money just came into play now, and the scope of work keeps changing, and it's going to keep changing. We need to fill out the paperwork, make sure you let them know we support the Quarter, but they can't get 100%.

- Citizen #13 Mr. Casey are you willing to work with Ms. Ella to share this money in both the Wards?
- Casey responds he always has.
- Citizen #14 Once we fill this paper out, is it going to really matter?
- Holmes-Hines says Yes, it will definitely matter
- Citizen #14 Once you get your half you will still inform us of hoe it is spent?
- Holmes-Hines says Yes, I will still let the community know where it is spent.
- Citizen #15 I feel this money should definitely be split, Soria City hasn't received any funding in 10 years, its time.
- Holmes-Hines says I believe we can work this out and everyone gets funding to help with their needs
- Citizen #16 Well that funding is only a start it won't fix everything. Will there be more money?
- Holmes-Hines says we have ARPA money, MIMA money, BP money, funding coming from everywhere.

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PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF GULFPORT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS THURSDAY JUNE 30, 2022 6:00 P.M.

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Shalmarya Romis	SOS mulu: Our Gutal	221) 861-7117 Forbook
Andrew R. Horris	1908 30th Ave. Got	228-863-103 taylorharrisrx@aol.com
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PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF GULFPORT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS

THURSDAY

JUNE 30, 2022

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PUBLIC HEARING
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS
THURSDAY JUNE 30, 2022 6:00 P.M.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS

THURSDAY JUNE 30, 2022 6:00 P.M.

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CITY OF GULFPORT

2022-2026 FIVE CONSOLIDATEDED PLAN CDBG AND HOME 2019—2021 CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS 2021 HOME AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The City of Gulfport is in the process of soliciting citizen and stakeholder input for its proposed 2022-2026 Five Year Consolidated Plan for CDBG and HOME Programs. Proposed Substantial Amendments to its 2019-2021 Action Plans, and input to the usage of one-time allocation of 2021 HOME American Rescue Plan Act funding. Any input you have concerning the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of the City of Gulfport are valued and will be considered during this process

Name Delouce Jophons Phone (278) 731-5634
Organization Represented (If applicable)
Address 400 Telgarden Read Opt 118 39501
A CDBG – HOME 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLANS
B CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS (2019-2021 FUNDING) C HOME ARPA 2021
COMMENTS (A) We are opposed to changing the 5-year consolidated CDBG Plan for one (1) community;
the "Quarters Project". Please address the following programs: Senior and Youth, Infrastructure Housing
Repairs, Job Creations, and Anti-Crime. (B) We are opposed to taking ALL the 2019-2021 funding for
economic development; the "Quarters Project". We support the CDBG funding to be split between
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C) Home ARPA 2021 should go to assisting women and children; domestic violence; rental assistance;
nomeless prevention; housing counseling; and tenant-based rental assistance programs.

Written comments may be delivered to Grants Management Department, at 1410 24th Avenue or emailed to communitydevelopment@gulfport-ms.gov

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Name Janara Wyaho Phone 228-229-6635
Organization Represented (If applicable) Address 2525 Munnally Street GH, MS 345
_A CDBG — HOME 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLANS _B CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS (2019-2021 FUNDING) _C HOME ARPA 2021
COMMENTS (A) We are opposed to changing the 5-year consolidated CDBG Plan for one (1) community;
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Name It's All About Days KIDS Irohone 228/239/8655
Organization Represented (if applicable) Mother (New) Boker
Address P.O. Box 1581 GPT. N.S. 39502
CDBG-HOME 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLANS CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS (2109-2021 FUNDING) HOME ARPA 2021
COMMENTS (B) We are opposed to taking all the 2019-2021 funding
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Moderate Wards (Ward 1 and Ward 3) (C) Home ARPA 2021 Should
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Changing 5 year Consolidate CDBG Plan for one (1) Community "Quarter Project" Please address: Seniors, Youth Infrastructive
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Housing Repairs, Anti-Crime project Job creator.

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Name HERNNETta VFC/endon Mas Frone 208-lola -8190
Organization Represented (if applicable) 10 min Star Church Address 131412 (7th 3th.
CDBG-HOME 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLANS CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS (2109-2021 FUNDING) HOME ARPA 2021
comments (A) opposed Changing Syear Consolidate CDBG
Plan for one(1) Community the" Quarters ProJect"
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Survey to March March

CITY OF GULFPORT

2022-2026 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN CDBG AND HOME 2019-2021 CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS 2021 HOME AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The City of Gulfport is in the process of soliciting citizen and stakeholder input for its proposed 2022-2026 Five Year Consolidated Plan for CDBG and HOME Programs, Proposed Substantial Amendments to its 2019-2021 Action Plans, and input into the usage of one-time allocation of 2021 HOME American Rescue Plan Act funding. Any input you have concerning the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of the City of Gulfport are valued and will be considered during this process.

\mathfrak{D}
Name Bruce E Dhnson Phone 228-865-2874
Organization Represented (if applicable) Norming Stan Church
Address 1020 hewis Are Got, MS 3450
CDBG-HOME 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLANS CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS (2109-2021 FUNDING) HOME ARPA 2021
COMMENTS (A) opposed Changing Syear Consolidate CDBG
Plan for one (1) Community the "Quarters ProJect"
Please address: Senior, Youth, Infrastructure, housing
repair, anti-Crime programs & Job Creation. (B) We
are appased to taking all the 2019-2021 funding for
economic development to go to the "Quarter Modert. We
Support the CDBG funding to be solit evenly between Both majority minority Low to moderate income wards (ward I and Ward 3).
Written comments may be delivered to Grants Management Department, at 1410 24th Avenue or emailed to communitydevelopment@gulfport-ms.gov.
C) Home ARPA 2021 Should go to assist Women/ children, Domestic Violence, Rental assistanc, homeless preventional housing Counseling.
Children, Domestic Violence, Rental assistance
homeless preventional housing Courseling.
Signature: Bus St
7

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to community development@gulfport-ms.gov.

CITY OF GULFPORT

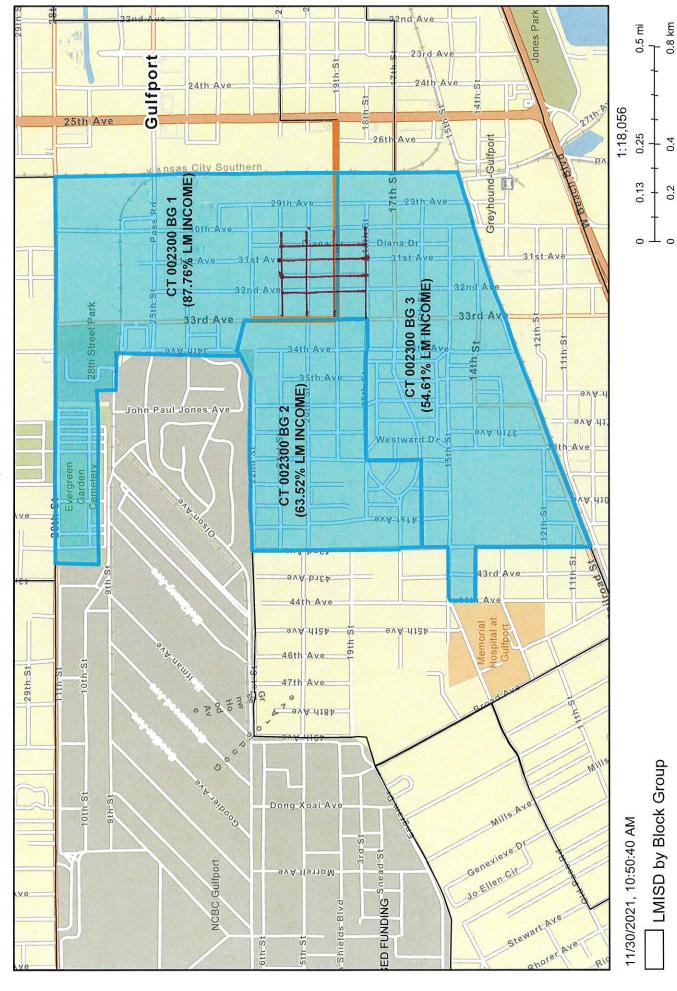
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	Freddie Saunders Phone 2282348558
Organizat	ion Represented (if applicable) Morning Star Baptist Church
Address	2050 Thornton Ave: Gulfport, MS 3950
· ·	CDBG-HOME 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLANS CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS (2109-2021 FUNDING) HOME ARPA 2021
COMMEN	TS: Monies Should be distributed
	enly among all the wards 1 and 3
<u> </u>	
* . , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , 	
	Steddie Saundes

Written comments may be delivered to Grants Management Department, at 1410 24th Avenue or emailed to communitydevelopment@gulfport+ms.gov.

CDBG SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT - QUARTERS STREET IMPROVEMENTS



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