

County of Cook, Illinois



Substantial Amendment to the 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan

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Public Notice – to be inserted upon publication

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EDAC Approval – to be inserted upon approval

SUMMARY

The Cook County Department of Planning and Development within the Bureau of Economic Development (the “County”) currently receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding on an annual entitlement basis from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The County proposes the addition of two municipalities, Arlington Heights and Des Plaines, to the Cook County HOME Consortium – beginning with Program Year 2016 - to continue to build strong partnership and to coordinate with HOME consortium members regarding housing goals, priorities, and strategies.

*This requires a Substantial Amendment to the 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan. This document, consisting of a narrative as well as required attachments, constitutes the formal Substantial Amendment to HUD. **This amendment will further ensure that federally available resources are effectively managed and coordinated.***

SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT NARRATIVE

The 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan (Planning for Progress: Cook County’s Consolidated Plan and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2015-19) is to be amended as indicated below.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Desiring a regional, collaborative response to local affordable housing needs, Cook County initially formed a HOME consortium in 1993 with several CDBG entitlement communities within its boundaries. As the lead entity, Cook County assumes overall responsibility for compliance with HOME requirements including administering the HOME program on behalf of the Cook County HOME Consortium.

The proposed amendment would expand the Cook County HOME consortium members to include Arlington Heights and Des Plaines beginning with program year 2016 and continuing forward contingent upon mutual agreement. Specifically, page 110 of the 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan, which outlines the geographic boundaries as of the date of adoption of this plan, needs to be amended to reflect the following:

Original 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan (January 2015)	Proposed Amendment (FY 2016)
Cook County HOME Consortium Includes all municipalities except: Chicago, Arlington Heights, Des Plaines, Oak Lawn, Evanston, and Skokie.	Cook County HOME Consortium Includes all municipalities except: Chicago, Oak Lawn, Evanston, and Skokie.

Page 110 of the 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan under “Geographic Definitions”

As members of the HOME Consortium, municipalities must align its CDBG program year to the County’s HOME Consortium program year. Both Arlington Heights and Des Plaines will conform to an October 1st-September 30th program year for any funding it receives directly from HUD in accordance with HUD rules. In order to facilitate this HOME Consortium addition, Arlington Heights, Des Plaines, and Cook County obtained the required internal legislative approvals from their respective Boards and jointly executed related agreement documentation. Related documentation was submitted to HUD in mid 2015 and subsequently accepted by HUD. This Substantial Amendment – along with similar Substantial

Amendments being handled directly by Arlington Heights and Des Plaines – is the final process required to facilitate these HOME Consortium membership additions.

The addition of Arlington Heights and Des Plaines in the HOME Consortium is consistent with the data and narrative originally included in the 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan as Cook County anticipated these membership additions during plan development. The related housing goals, priorities, and strategies remain unchanged and consistent. Furthermore, the balance of the current HOME Consortium membership remains unchanged and the existing Consortium agreement remains in effect.

Participation in the Cook County HOME Consortium helps to ensure a collaborative process with a strategic sub-regional focus. Through a regional, cooperative approach, the Cook County HOME Consortium can continue to develop its capacity to respond to the unique and affordable housing challenges of the local area. This geographic concentration of resources facilitates a greater positive community impact.

APPENDIX 1 - STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Public Notice

To be inserted later.

Public Comments and Cook County Responses

To be inserted later.

EDAC Approval

To be inserted later.