ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC NOTICE

June 2, 2022
Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development
20 Crestmont Road
Verona, NJ 07044
(973) 655-0200

In accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations governing the Emergency Solutions Grant - CV (ESG - CV) Program, the County of Essex hereby notifies the public of its intent to amend its PY 2019 action plan to reflect an update in the proposed uses of ESG - CV funds. It is noted the CARES Act waived the consultation and citizen participation requirements with respect to ESG CV funds, but does require that a description of changes be published on the Internet via the appropriate government web site or other electronic media. This notice achieves this obligation as it is being published on the Essex County website.

On March 27, 2020 the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) was signed into law to assist communities in their efforts to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus pandemic. The CARES Act included supplemental formula allocations to HUD's CPD programs, including total ESG-CV funding of \$4,548,624, of which \$4,093,965 was originally set aside for various Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing rental assistance activities and the balance for Administrative costs. In July 2021, the County announced that \$500,000 from Homeless Prevention and \$500,000 from Rapid Rehousing was reallocated for Emergency Shelter Operations for an amount of \$900,000 and Street Outreach for an amount of \$100,000 in order to assist shelters impacted by the Covid pandemic which were delivering services and shelter to homeless persons. In March 2022, \$682,284 of funds were returned to HUD based on certain expenditure deadlines caused primarily by a low demand for funds resulting from eviction moratoriums and the availability of ERAP funding (recent communications from HUD indicate some or all of these funds may be returned later in 2022). As a result, the County's budget for Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention activities was reduced by \$614,055 and administrative funds were cut by \$68,229. On May 11, 2022, the Divison subsequently received approval to contract with various agencies to process Homeless Protection activities totaling \$122,460 and Rapid Rehousing activities totaling \$2,257,240. Based on the demand for Rapid Rehousing activities, the Division reallocated a portion of Homeless Prevention dollars (\$55,357) to Rapid Rehousing such that the current breakdown of ESG CV funds is as follows:

Rapid ReHousing	Ş 2	2,257,240
Homeless Prevention	\$	222,460
Street Outreach	\$	100,000
Shelter Operations	\$	900,000
Admin	\$	386,630

Total \$3,866,330

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. County Executive

John M. Soares Division Director