

**TOWN OF GREECE  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**2019 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)  
PROPOSED USE OF SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS**

As a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been authorized to provide supplemental funding to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, through the implementation of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES Act). The CARES Act allows for these funds to be utilized to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the impacts of the crisis.

The Town of Greece will receive an anticipated \$ 705,583 as part of the third round of the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus funds (CDBG - CV) from HUD for use in the Town's 2019 program year, which began August 1, 2019.

As a result, on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 6:15 p.m., the Town of Greece is proposing a substantial amendment to its previously approved 2019 CDBG Annual Action Plan to allow for the acceptance of the additional funds, and approval of the next phase of the town's CDBG - CV response initiatives. The meeting will take place in the Eastman Room at the Greece Town Hall, One Vince Tofany Boulevard, Greece, New York.

Written comments may be submitted regarding this proposal no later than Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Please submit written comments to the Office of Community Development; Town of Greece; One Vince Tofany Boulevard; Greece, New York 14612. Telephone inquiries should be directed to John T. Caterino, CDBG Administrator/Planner, at 585-723-2432, email address: [jcaterino@greecenyc.gov](mailto:jcaterino@greecenyc.gov)

The following activities, fund allocations, and amendments are proposed, subject to approval by HUD, in order to allow for the Town of Greece to receive and utilize the third round of CDBG-CV funds from HUD:

***Public Services and Technology Improvement Program: \$180,000,  
which would include the following:***

- a) ***Meeting Room Audio, Video, and Communications Upgrades:*** During the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, town staff has had to rely on virtual meetings to maintain services, agency coordination, and public engagement. This activity/program includes purchase and installation of equipment to facilitate virtual public and interagency meetings (screens, cameras, microphone/sound system improvements, tablets/laptops, network and wireless connectivity improvements, network security). Improvements will vary depending on the specific location, but will include public meeting rooms and conference rooms in Town Hall, the Department of Public Works, and other essential town facilities, to further allow for the continuation of public services, while maintaining social distancing.
- b) ***Software Upgrades:*** The need to maintain public services amid social distancing requirements has prompted the town to explore more flexible software licensing to accommodate remote access, more reliable and secure file transfer and cloud storage formats, and more accessible and secure virtual meeting options. This activity/program includes the purchase and installation of a Microsoft Outlook upgrade (currently using MS Outlook 2013) and MS Office 365, which offers online versions of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, SharePoint, OneDrive, and Teams. Software improvements will expand work-from-home capability, digital

*document sharing, and provide a more secure and robust virtual meeting platform to allow the town to continue providing critical services to the community and public, while reducing the need for in-person engagement.*

- c) *Public-facing website improvements: Social distancing associated with the COVID-19 public health emergency has increased the need to make services available to the community via the town's website. While some services are already available online, many of the tools are outmoded and additional services could be made available. This activity/program will include website improvements that increase online interactive functionality for the public, including map-based applications to facilitate access to public information, online permitting, document submissions, information requests, payments, and other amenities to provide public services, while maintaining social distancing.*