Fort Bend County has been allocated $1,948,558 in CDBG COVID-19 Program funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136. Fort Bend County proposes to amend its approved FY 2019 Consolidated Action Plan. The Consolidated Plan regulations at 24 CFR 91.505 state that a jurisdiction shall amend its approved plan whenever it makes one of the following decisions:

1. To make a change in its allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds;
2. To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the consolidated plan (including program income), not previously described in the action plan; or
3. To change the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity.

In addition, Fort Bend County has identified in its citizen participation plan the criteria it uses for determining what constitutes substantial amendments that are subject to a citizen participation process, in accordance with the County’s citizen participation plan. The definitions and/or criteria of what constitutes a substantial change for the purpose of amending the consolidated plan are as follows:

1. Purpose: The purpose is substantially changed if the overall purpose for which a project is funded changes. Changing a specific objective without changing the overall purpose of the project will not be considered a substantial change.
2. Scope: The scope is substantially changed if the original estimated cost of the project is increased by twenty percent or more.
3. Location: The location is substantially changed if the service area of a project changes from the original service area.
4. Beneficiaries: The beneficiaries are substantially changed if there is a change in type or the number is increased by twenty percent or more.

The purpose of CDBG COVID-19 grant is to provide funding for a range of eligible activities that prevent and respond to the spread of infectious diseases such as the coronavirus. Fort Bend County will use the funds for rental assistance, utility assistance, case management and CDBG COVID-19 program administration. Fort Bend County will allocate funds as follows: Rent and Utility Assistance: $1,558,847; Case Management and Program Administration: $389,711. A subrecipient will not be used to carry out this activity.

The Fort Bend County FY 2019 Consolidated Action Plan CDBG COVID-19 Amendment is available for public comment. The public is encouraged to submit written comments by Friday, May 29, 2020 to Marilynn Kindell, Community Development Director, 301 Jackson, Suite 602, Richmond, Texas 77469 or email comments to communitydevelopment@fortbendcountytx.gov Comments will be incorporated into the Consolidated Action Plan CDBG COVID-19 Amendment, as appropriate.