

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Mansfield will hold a public hearing on 3/3/2022 at 6:00 p.m. via a web-based virtual meeting to hear comments regarding the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant-COVID (SC CDBG-CV), COVID-19 Resident Assistance Program (also known as the Helping Hands program), that was awarded to the Town of Mansfield in December, 2020.

This funding was awarded for activities that would prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The total amount funded to the Town of Mansfield was Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) for the Mansfield Resident Assistance Program.

To be eligible for funding, the activities proposed must meet one of the following requirements:

- Enables a community to **Prepare** for COVID-19;
- Enables a community to **Prevent** the spread of COVID-19; or
- Enables a community to **Respond** to the fall-out of COVID-19.

Additionally, the activities must meet one of the following priorities established by the Connecticut Department of Housing:

- Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance)
- Planning, capacity building and technical assistance
- Provision of new, quantifiably increased public services

Projects funded with CDBG allocations must also carry out at least one of three National Objectives: benefit to low-and moderate-income persons, elimination of slum and blight, or meeting urgent community development needs.

The Planning and Development Department on behalf of the Town of Mansfield applied for this funding for public service activities to assist low and moderate income residents that have been impacted by the COVID-19 virus. Potential activities included but were not limited to: rental assistance, nutrition/food security services; and childcare assistance. Nutrition/food security services and childcare assistance activities were approved by the State of CT, Department of Housing. As of December 31, 2021, the Town has assisted 35 Mansfield households through the COVID-19 Resident Assistance Program and expended \$69,889 in total grant funds. The Town Council recently authorized expanding the program to residents of neighboring towns to include Chaplin, Coventry, Ashford, Willington and Windham.

The purpose of the public hearing is to obtain citizens views on the community's continued needs related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to the impacts of the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Citizens will be able to provide input on the specific project activities that are being carried out under the SC CDBG-CV program.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, you may direct comments and questions to Jillene Woodmansee, Citizen Participation Coordinator, care of the Mansfield Department of Planning and Development, 4. S. Eagleville Rd., Mansfield, CT 06268; via email at

planzonedept@mansfieldct.org; or by telephone at 860.429.3341. Written comments received by 3:00 p.m. on March 3, 2022 will be included in the public hearing record.

Information on how to participate in the public hearing will be on the meeting agenda, which will be posted at <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/AgendaCenter> no less than 24 hours before the meeting.

All are encouraged to attend. The hearing is accessible to all persons with disabilities. Any disabled persons requiring special assistance or non-English speaking persons should contact Jillene Woodmansee, Citizen Participation Coordinator, at least 72 hours prior to the hearing.

The Town Mansfield promotes fair housing and makes all programs available to low-and moderate-income households regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability or physical/mental disability, or sexual orientation.

Jillene B. Woodmansee
Planner 1/Certified Grant Administrator

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