

**CITY OF ALLENTOWN**

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION**

**R67 – 2020**

***Introduced by the Administration on May 20, 2020***

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**Approves the Submission of an application to the Emergency Solutions Grant – CARES Act grant program of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development in the amount of EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$850,000.00).**

**Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That**

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**Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown,**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Allentown is eligible to apply for funding through federal housing and community development programs for use within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH) enacted into law on May 20, 2009, authorized the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) has received ESG program funds and is making these funds available to units of local governments for eligible homeless services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Allentown desires to submit an application to DCED for ESG Program funds to provide homeless services or on behalf of other entities to provide homeless services.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Allentown hereby designates the Mayor and Finance Director as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the City of Allentown and the Department of Community & Economic Development to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Allentown hereby authorizes submission of the application by the City of Allentown for EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$850,000.00) to the Emergency Solutions Grant – CARES Act program of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

- **What Department or bureau is Bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?**

The Consolidated Grants Program (CGP) legislation consists of two ordinances and one resolution and originates in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

The attached legislation, from the Department of Community and Economic Development serves as the template for the City of Allentown's application for federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), and Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) funds. Each piece of legislation serves a specific purpose, which when combined, contain all the recommended regulatory steps need to apply for these federal funds. These are the same types of legislation presented to City Council every year. However, the actual dollar amounts, list of activities and funds available are different every year.

- **Summary and Facts of the Bill**

46 Ordinance #1 Establish CDBG-CV accounts

Summary: This legislation is required to establish expenditure accounts for the City budgeting system, in addition to listing all the activities/programs which will be funded for the 2020 Consolidated Grants Program year. It provides the basis for the creation of the Action Plan which is submitted to HUD as the application for the CDBG, and ESG program funds which the City receives every year.

- **Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:**
  - **What does the Bill do – what are the specific goals/tasks the bill seek to accomplish**
  - **What are the Benefits of doing this/Down-side of doing this**
  - **How does this Bill related to the City's Vision/Mission/Priorities**

This ordinance provides the City with the second step needed to allow the City to apply for and then access \$2,040,088 in grant funds for the January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 program year. All activities funded comply with the CDBG, and ESG regulations as promulgated by HUD and allow the City to further its Community and Economic Development Initiatives. This bill provides the second step in the process which forms the basis to complete the strategies of the second year of the City of Allentown's Consolidated Plan for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2025.

- **Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:**
  - **Cost (Initial and ongoing)**
  - **Benefits (initial and ongoing)**

This ordinance provides the City the ability to expend \$ 2,040,088.00 in federal funds to complete a variety of activities including public services, neighborhood improvements, administration of the programs, etc. This legislation has no adverse financial impact on the City and the General Fund.

- **Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:**
  - **If transferring funds, please make sure bill gives specific accounts; if appropriating funds from a grant list the agency awarding the grant.**

The funding sources for this ordinance are the federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG).

- **Priority status/Deadlines, if any**

This bill has a high priority status. We must submit the application to HUD by as soon as possible.

- **Why should Council unanimously support this bill?**

Funding decisions were made by complying with HUD's regulations, which require the City to address concerns/needs during the COVID-19 Pandemic.