

**Program Year 2021**  
**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**  
**Action Plan Substantial Amendment Summary**  
**for**  
**Community Development Block Grant**



## **Introduction**

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The City of Columbus is proposing use of Program Year 2021 funding allocated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The funding is planned for expansion of existing programming and new programming to serve low-to-moderate income residents of Columbus. Expenditures are consistent with community needs, priorities and strategies stated in the City’s 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The City is making budget adjustments to projects originally outlined in the 2021 Action Plan. The purpose of this document is to outline the budget changes and provide context for the citizen participation process taking place in advance of the submission of a substantial amendment to the 2021 Action Plan.

## **Estimated Budget**

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The City was notified on May 13, 2021 that the City’s CDBG allocation was increased from \$7,510,316 to \$7,620,991. The City is budgeting for PY 2021 programs based on the new entitlement award announcement, program income, and funds recaptured from a Revolving Loan Fund.

<b>2021 CDBG Budget including Revolving Loan Fund and Program Income</b>	\$13,239,840
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## **Public Participation Process**

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A five (5) day public comment period began on May 24, 2021 when this draft Action Plan Substantial Amendment Summary and a revised version of the 2021 Annual Action Plan were posted on the City’s Department of Finance and Management, Grants Management Division webpage. Public comments are accepted through May 29, 2021 via phone, email and in writing.

The Department of Finance and Management, Grants Management Division is holding a virtual public meeting on May 26, 2021 at 5:30 PM. Each project included in the amendment will be discussed and citizens are encouraged to provide testimony. The meeting will be held virtually due to social distancing protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Community Development Block Grant Programing with Substantial Amendment Budget Adjustments**

A. Projects which the City is planning to adjust budgets for are called out below:

- 1.) **Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Center Managers** – Budget increase by \$32,000
- 2.) **Franklinton Sidewalk Gaps** – Budget increase by \$15,882.70
- 3.) **Neighborhoods Sidewalk Improvements** – Budget increase by \$1,146,123
- 4.) **Critical Home Repair Program** – Budget decrease by \$400,000
- 5.) **Roof Repair Program** – Budget decrease by \$400,000

B. New Action Plan Projects listed by Consolidated Plan Goals

*Goal: Provide Educational / Recreational Youth Programing*

- 1.) **Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Capital Kids**  
\$630,000  
The Capital Kids program incorporates trained staff, state of the art technology, high expectations and high performance standards designed to gauge student's academic achievement and to also provide participants with a safe place to learn and play when school is out.
- 2.) **Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Fitness Camps**  
\$90,000  
Provide a camp for children ages 6 to 14 years that operates during the summer & winter when school is not in session. The School's Out program is designed to especially benefit the children of working parents. School's Out offers a day long, well supervised program that allows children to take part in a variety of recreational, educational, cultural and physical fitness activities in a safe and secure environment.
- 3.) **Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Center Managers**  
\$158,000  
Community Development Block Grant funds will be utilized for salaries for managers at eligible recreation centers in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods.

*Goal: Public Facilities / Infrastructure Improvements*

- 1.) **Myrtle Avenue and Cleveland Avenue Intersection and Crosswalk Improvement Design**  
\$250,000  
This project includes the costs for engineering and design for intersection improvements at the Myrtle and Cleveland Avenues intersection.
- 2.) **J. Ashburn Jr. Youth Center Parking Lot Resurfacing**  
\$65,000



- In order to accommodate visitors at the J. Ashburn Jr. Youth Center as well as the new early childhood learning center located adjacent, the City will fund parking lot improvements.
- 3.) **Linden Lighting Improvements**  
\$111,875  
The project will replace South Linden light luminaires and will include tree trimming.
  - 4.) **Franklinton Sidewalk Gaps**  
\$380,882.70  
The project constructs 4,181 feet of sidewalk. Existing roads, alleys, sidewalks, and other existing infrastructure components that are impacted by this project will be repaired/replaced as necessary.
  - 5.) **Neighborhoods ADA Curb Replacements**  
\$809,355  
464 ADA compliant curb ramps at 95 intersections in the Hilltop, Morse/161, Near East, Near South, and South Linden areas. Existing roads, alleys, sidewalks, and other existing infrastructure components that are impacted by this project will be repaired/replaced as necessary.
  - 6.) **Park Improvements and Tree Planting**  
\$2,280,000  
Park Improvements at: Marie Moreland Park, Smith Road Park, Maybury Park, Livingston Park, Nelson Park, Sullivant Gardens Park, Waltham Woods Park, Hilliard Green Park, Kingsrowe Park, Mifflin Park, Redick Park, Hilltonia Park, Kobacker Park, Millbrook Park, Hauntz Park, Southwood Park. Street Tree Planting in CDBG-eligible block groups within the North Central, South Side, Far South and Southwest Columbus Communities.
  - 7.) **Neighborhoods Sidewalk Improvements**  
\$2,546,123.37  
Sidewalks will be installed on the following streets: East North Broadway, Wicklow Road, Barnett Road, Steele Avenue and Woodward Avenue.
  - 8.) **Glenwood and Windsor Pool Designs**  
\$1,000,000  
The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will administer an architectural and engineering contract(s) for Glenwood Pool and Windsor Pool. The development of the design will position Columbus Recreation and Parks for the next phase of the project, replacement of the existing pools with the modern outdoor aquatic facilities appropriate for current and future aquatics programs.
  - 9.) **Wheatland Avenue Street Improvements Design**  
\$300,000  
New development continues on the Hilltop's Wheatland Avenue. CDBG will be utilized to design infrastructure improvements to the street to better serves residents.
  - 10.) **Tennis Court Lighting Improvements**  
\$420,000  
The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will contract the installation of energy-efficient LED lighting at Marion Franklin Park and Scioto Southland Park.
  - 11.) **Arts and Fitness Facilities Upgrades**



\$222,610

The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will make improvements to recreation centers throughout the City by purchasing and installing new equipment for health and wellness programming. Facilities include: Dodge Community Center, Aquatic Center, Barnett Community Recreation Center, Blackburn Community Recreation Center, Tuttle Pool, Maryland Pool, Columbus Aquatics Center, Driving Park, Center, Marion-Franklin Pool, Glenwood Pool, Windsor Pool, Scioto Southland, Douglas Community Center, Barack Community Center, Franklin Park Adventure Center, Sammons Park.

12.) **Hiawatha Park Drive Shared Use Path Design**

\$250,000

The Department of Public Service will administer an engineering contract to design a shared use path along Hiawatha Park Drive to connect Linden residents to the Mapfre Stadium recreational facility and the Alum Creek and Olentangy Trails.

13.) **Wheatland Farms Complex – Market Building Construction**

\$1,500,000

Construction of free market for low-to-moderate income families at the Wheatland Farm site located adjacent the Wheatland Crossing housing complex in the Hilltop neighborhood. Design and engineering will be complete by Mid-Ohio and the City will fund the construction of the building.

14.) **Barack Community Recreation Center Kitchen Improvements**

\$400,000

The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will complete a kitchen renovation at the Barack Community Recreation Center.

*Goal: Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing*

1.) **Roof Repair Program**

\$445,000

The Department of Development will manage a roof repair/replacement program for low-to-moderate income Columbus homeowners. The program will benefit an estimated 65 households.

2.) **Critical Home Repair Program**

\$400,000

The Department of Development will manage a program to address critical structural repair needs at low-to-moderate income homeowners.

3.) **CHORES Minor Home Repair Program**

\$250,000

The Department of Development will manage a program for small home repairs for senior homeowners.



*Goal: Provide Homebuyer Education and Other Counseling*

1.) **Housing Counseling**

\$110,000

Funding for contracts with HUD approved Housing Counseling Agencies for the provision of homebuyer and homeowner counseling.

*Goal: Ensure Equal Access to Housing*

1.) **Fair Housing Program**

\$150,000

The Department of Finance and Management will contract a vendor for the PY 2021 City Fair Housing Program services.

*Goal: Program Management, Capacity Building and / or Administration*

1.) **Grants Management Staff**

\$555,000

Grants Management Division staffing in the Department of Finance and Management for administration of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grants.

2.) **Neighborhoods and Agency Programs**

\$300,000

Staff cost to support Neighborhood Pride Centers for the Department of Neighborhoods. Neighborhood Liaisons and programs connect residents to city government and other community leaders in order to resolve community issues. Neighborhood liaisons respond to service request and issues addressing housing, crime, economic needs and opportunities for local businesses, recreational youth programs, healthy food and health care access, zoning and civic and area commissions.

