



City of Deltona

MEMORANDUM

To: John A. Peters, III, Acting City Manager
City Commissioners

From: Camille Hooper, Finance Director *CH*

Date: January 15, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Update

As requested at the regular Commission meeting on November 2, 2020, this report is an update on the City's receipts and expenditure related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CARES Act - Volusia County.

- Funds Received: \$3,227,730
- Funds Disbursed: \$0

The City applied for the full amount of the allocation, and after review of the supporting documentation, Volusia County disbursed it to Deltona in early November 2020. Because these funds are a reimbursement for expenditures in 2020 that were deemed CARES-eligible by the Department of the Treasury, the City's use of these funds is not restricted. We expect that this allocation will be subjected to audit in the near future, however, and due to the unprecedented and fluid nature of CARES act guidance, staff recommends postponing significant use of the funds in case program regulations change further.

CARES Act – Florida Housing Finance Corp/SHIP

- Funds Received: \$700,338
- Funds Disbursed: \$627,311
- Applications Distributed: 600
- Completed Applications Received: 185
- Qualifying Households Assisted: 123

These funds are intended for individuals who have suffered financial hardship due to the pandemic. Qualified applicants can receive funds for mortgage, rent, and/or utility assistance, which the City pays directly on the applicant's behalf.

The City received an initial allocation of \$300,338 from Florida Housing Finance Corporation in September 2020, and an additional \$200,000 in October 2020. Due to Deltona's success in distributing these initial allocations, FHFC contacted the City again in November 2020 and offered another \$200,000, bringing the total amount from SHIP to \$700,338.

Housing and Community Development, assisted by both full-time and temporary staff, administered this program. They conducted extensive outreach to inform residents of these funds through Deltona's website, social media outlets, television, and through social and faith-based organizations. The City distributed approximately 600 applications to interested residents, and followed up with potential applicants to offer assistance with the application or documentation process. Many prospective applicants ultimately declined to apply due to documentation requirements or an inability to demonstrate pandemic-related financial hardship. The City eventually received 185 complete applications, of which 123 households qualified for assistance. Incidentally, some residents discussed other personal challenges and needs during the CARES application process, and staff offered additional help by directing them to community organizations and resources.

Total expenses charged to the program by the December 31, 2020 deadline were \$627,311 – approximately 90% of the total allocation. This amount includes \$570,311 of housing and utility assistance paid by issuing 600+ checks to various providers. Another \$57,000 will help cover administrative costs as permitted by SHIP rules.

CARES Act – CDBG

- Funds Received: \$738,809
- Funds Disbursed: 52,511

These funds are also intended for individuals who have suffered financial hardship due to the pandemic. Qualified applicants can receive funds for mortgage, rent, and/or utility assistance, which the City pays directly on the applicant's behalf. Housing & Community Development focused their initial efforts on SHIP funds due to the earlier deadline. Now that SHIP is complete they are focusing on CDBG CARES, which has an expenditure deadline of June 30, 2021. Similar to SHIP, program applicants must meet eligibility guidelines, including means testing, and must demonstrate a pandemic-related financial loss.

The City's initial CDBG-CARES allocation was \$358,628. We were subsequently notified of additional CDBG-CARES of \$380,181, bringing the total revenue to \$738,809. Housing and Community Development is preparing a plan and budget for this additional allocation, which it will bring before the Commission for approval.

FEMA – FEMA reimbursement is also available for some pandemic-related expenses made on or before September 14, 2020. The City has filed a FEMA claim for \$54,000 in eligible expenditures, with a maximum reimbursement of 75%. FEMA has not yet reviewed our claim.

FFCRA – The Families First Coronavirus Relief Act required employers to provide paid leave to employees affected by the COVID pandemic under certain conditions. The City has paid \$161,000 in FFCRA leave to 153 employees affected by COVID. FFCRA expired on December 31, 2020.

Cc: Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper
Mari Leisen
Ron Paradise
Angelia Briggs
Rich Adams