

URBAN COUNTY OF ORANGE

Citizen Participation Plan

FY 2015-2019

CARES-ACT Amendment

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Table of Contents

I.	Background	3
II.	Amendments to The Citizen Participation Plan	
	A. Public Hearings	3
	B. Public Notice	4

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN Urban County of Orange

I. BACKGROUND

The following Citizen Participation Plan provides a framework and process by which the County's consolidated planning efforts comply with the citizen participation requirements published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This Citizen Participation Plan is prepared and implemented in accordance with the guidance provided in HUD Regulations 24 CFR Part 91.105.

Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the President signed it on March 27, 2020 authorizing \$2.2 trillion in a variety of stimulus measures to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to use these allocations emergency Solution Grant (ESG-CV) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) allocations, substantial amendments to the FY 2015-19 Consolidated Plan, Citizen Participation Plan and FY 2019-20 Annual Action Plan need to be implemented. HUD has also authorized various waivers, some of which are changing the Public Notice requirements from 30-days to 5-days for substantial amendments and consolidated planning public hearings will be publicly available for comments at least two weeks (14) days in advance of the hearing date.

II. Amendments to The Citizen Participation Plan for the County of Orange to addresses each of the following elements:

A. Public Hearings

HUD recognizes the efforts to contain COVID-19 require limiting public gatherings, such as those often used to obtain citizen participation, and that there is a need to respond quickly to the growing spread and effects of COVID-19. Therefore, HUD waives 24 CFR 91.105(c)(2) and (k), 24 CFR 91.115(c)(2) and (i) and 24 CFR 91.401 to allow these grantees to determine what constitutes reasonable notice and opportunity to comment given their circumstances. The County has determined that reasonable comment period is 14-days.

The notices will be published either as public notices or advertisements in newspapers of general circulation in *English, Spanish and Vietnamese*. The notices will provide details concerning the nature of the public hearing, applicable HUD regulations, date and time of the hearings, and other necessary information. The Citizen Participation Plan will be posted on the Housing & community Development website at www.occommunityservices.org/hcd/community and OC Libraries at www.ocpl.org.

The Public hearings are held at OC Board of Supervisors Hearing Room Hall of Administration. To view a meetings visit <https://board.ocgov.com/board-meeting-media-archive> to view live Internet broadcast. The public may send comments to

upcoming Board meetings by emailing response@ocgov.com. Comments submitted before the start of Board meetings will be part of the public record and distributed to the Board members for their consideration, please include Board Date and topic for comment

B. Public Notice - Substantial Amendments

This 30-day minimum for the required public notice period is waived for substantial amendments, provided that no less than 5 days are provided for public notice on each substantial amendment. The waiver is available through the end of the recipient's 2020 program year. Any recipient wishing to undertake further amendments to prior year plans following the 2020 program year can do so during the development of its FY 2021 Annual Action Plan.