

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Duluth Communications Office

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SUBJECT: City to host public meeting to determine federal funds prioritization

BY: Kate Van Daele, Public Information Officer

City to host public meeting to determine federal funds prioritization

[Duluth, MN] The City of Duluth will host a public Community Input Session on Thursday, November 19, at 11:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to have members of the public share their perspective on how COVID-19 impacts people with low incomes, neighborhoods with higher concentrations of poverty, and communities that are historically and currently disenfranchised. Input collected from this meeting will help shape the prioritization of federal funds that the City of Duluth has received.

The City has received a second allocation of funding from the CARES Act to assist with the community's response to COVID-19. The additional \$1,752,840 from HUD to assist with COVID-19 related needs in the city. Precisely, \$1,252,530 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds will help with shelter, prevention, and rapid-rehousing of people experiencing homelessness. An additional \$500,310 in Community Development Block Grant funds will be used to assist people with low incomes with services, housing, employment, and other basic needs.

The funding will be available through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and assists with the prevention, preparation, and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The City held a public hearing held on October 27 and will have a second meeting to hear from as many voices as possible to help identify the current needs and gaps that the community is experiencing.

The meeting on the 19th will be held virtually. To access the meeting, please visit <https://duluthmn.gov/live-meeting>, selecting Planning & Development Public Meetings at the time of the meeting. All participants will have a chance to speak.

If you cannot attend the session but would like to submit comments, please send those comments to Ben VanTassel at bvantassel@duluthmn.gov by Monday, November 23rd. Additional information about the funding that the city has received from the HUD and comments received is available on the city's website here: <https://duluthmn.gov/planning-development/community-development-funding/cares-act-supplemental-funding/>.

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