

**CITY OF BETHLEHEM, PA
HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (HOME-ARP)
NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER**

Posting Date: July 29, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby provided that the City of Bethlehem, PA, (“City”) will hold a public hearing on August 15, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in Town Hall Rotunda, 10 E. Church St., Bethlehem, PA 18018, in connection with the City’s application for a HOME-American Rescue Plan (“HOME-ARP”) Non-Congregate Shelter grant.

Purpose of HOME-ARP Funds. To address the need for homelessness assistance and supportive services, Congress appropriated \$5 billion in ARP funds to be administered through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) to perform activities that must primarily benefit qualifying populations who are: homeless; at risk of homelessness; fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking; or in certain other populations not included in the above populations (each a “Qualifying Population,” and collectively, “Qualifying Populations”). The City is applying for HOME-ARP funds from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development for the purpose of creating a non-congregate shelter through the acquisition and rehabilitation of one or more existing structures. A non-congregate shelter (“NCS”) is one or more buildings that provide private units or rooms as temporary shelter to individuals and families and does not require occupants to sign a lease or occupancy agreement. In the event that the acquisition and rehabilitation fails to occur, the City may consider alternative HOME-ARP-eligible methods to create to create a NCS, including without limitation, acquiring real property and constructing a new NCS. Individuals and families from Qualifying Populations will be eligible to apply for and be admitted to the non-congregate shelter.

City’s Planned Use of HOME-ARP Funds. The City seeks HOME-ARP funding to support the City’s HOME-ARP allocation plan (“Allocation Plan”) and the creation of a NCS to serve Qualifying Populations (defined above). The requested funding will support eligible HOME-ARP costs including, without limitation, rehabilitation costs and Administration and Planning expenses incurred by the City and/or its agents.

Comments in connection with Public Hearing. Written comments on the public hearing may be emailed to Emily Folenta, Housing Policy Lead, at efolenta@bethlehem-pa.gov, with copy to Robert Vidoni, Housing and Community Development Administrator, at rvidoni@bethlehem-pa.gov, or delivered or mailed to Robert Vidoni, Community Development Bureau, 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. Phone comments may be provided by calling 610-865-7085 and speaking with Emily Folenta, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM through 4:30 PM.

Translation Services; Accessibility/Reasonable Accommodations. If you are in need of translation services, or other reasonable accommodations, related to this public hearing, please contact Emily Folenta at efolenta@bethlehem-pa.gov or 610-865-7085 no later than 4 p.m. on August 12, 2024. City Hall and Council Chambers (Town Hall Rotunda) are wheelchair accessible. Special parking is available at the primary entrance to City Hall at 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. Persons with disabilities, or others, who plan to attend the public hearing on August 15, 2024, and who might need auxiliary aids or services, or accessibility assistance, should contact Emily Folenta, information above, no later than 4 p.m. on August 12, 2024.

Applicable Law. This notice is issued in accordance with HOME and other applicable laws and regulations. The City does not discriminate based on disability. The public hearing will be held in compliance with applicable fair housing and civil rights laws and requirements.

CITY OF BETHLEHEM, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUREAU. First floor, 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. Phone: (610) 865-7085