

Agency of Commerce and Community Development

National Life Building – Davis Building, 6th Floor One National Life Drive Montpelier, VT 05620-0501 accd.vermont.gov 802-828-3080

April 27, 2020

Robert Shumeyko, Director Office of Community Planning and Development Department of Housing and Urban Development Boston Regional Office Community Planning and Development Division 10 Causeway Street, Suite 525 Boston, MA 02222

Re: CDBG-CV Direct Assistance Waiver Request – 42 U.S.C. 5306(d) For the CARES Act CDBG-CV Funding Allocation Dated April 2, 2020

Dear Mr. Shumeyko,

The Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Department of Housing and Community Development administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and will be administering the CDBG-CV CARES Act funding under Public Law #116-136 dated March 27, 2020.

In an effort to expedite the funding for those in the greatest need we are seeking a Waiver Request of 42 U.S. C. 5306(d) to deploy the funding directly through our Regional Partners, such as the Regional Development Corporations, and/or the Regional Planning Commissions that have long-standing working relationships with the Municipalities. The situation that we are still facing under the COVID-19 with the Municipalities working remotely and attempting to maintain a modicum of local government and all the demands they do not have the capacity to apply for and administer this much needed funding for their constituents.

We have a proven track record of this delivery method under Tropical Storm Irene, Disaster Recovery Funding of over \$5.8M for our Business Assistance Program successfully helping over 250 businesses.

Further, this was an acceptable approach under the Sandy Bill with Disaster Recovery Funding, so this is not an unusual Waiver Request under an emergency situation.

We thank you for your support of our Waiver request and look forward to working with you to make the best use of the much-needed funding for the residents of Vermont.

Sincerely yours,

Ann Karlene Kroll Director of Grants Management

cc: Josh Hanford, Commissioner Adam C. Ploetz, CPD Representative

