

WORK SESSION AGENDA

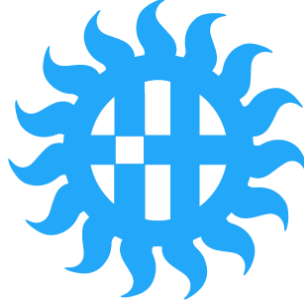
Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 1:00 PM

Mayor Ken
Miyagishima

Council Chambers

Mayor Pro Tem
Kassandra Gandara

Councilors
Tessa Abeyta
Becki Graham
Johana Bencomo
Becky Corran
Yvonne Flores



CITY OF LAS CRUCES

**CITY HALL
P.O. BOX 20000
LAS CRUCES, NM
88004**

**700 N. Main St.
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If you need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to fully participate in this event please contact us 72 hours before this event at [541-2115/V](tel:541-2115) or [541-2182/TTY](tel:541-2182).

1. **PETS OF THE WEEK**
2. **JOBS OF THE WEEK**
3. **AGENDA ITEM**

- 3.1. ARPA - ED Proposal
[WS #23-047 - Pdf](#)

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Council Work Session Summary

Meeting: Work Session - Oct 10 2023

TITLE: ARPA - ED Proposal

PURPOSE(S) OF DISCUSSION: ☒ Inform/Update ☒ Direction/Guidance ☐ Legislative
Development/Policy

BACKGROUND / KEY ISSUES / CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

The City of Las Cruces (City), as a recipient of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)/Coronavirus (COVID-19) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) from the U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury), implemented a Request for Proposals (RFP) process from the distribution of funds for Community and Economic Development Initiatives. These resources are made available to the City to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and/or its negative economic impacts.

Treasury has charged the City with ensuring projects respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and meet urgent community needs. Treasury recommends a swift and effective implementation process that balances facilitating simple and rapid program access widely across the community and maintaining a robust documentation and compliance regime. The City must ensure proper documentation supporting determinations of costs and applicable compliance requirements, satisfactory award management, internal control, and subrecipient oversight and management.

On February 22, 2022, the ARPA RFP process was tabled indefinitely by the Las Cruces City Council. In an effort to abide by the guidelines set forth by the Treasury, a new ARPA Eligibility and Evaluation Guide has been created to move the 21 applicants forward through the process, and fund them based on the criteria established in that process.

The proposed eligibility process was presented at the April 11, 2022, City Council Work Session, and on May 2, 2022, City Council approved Resolution No. 22-035 thereby adopting the ARPA Eligibility Process and Guide.

The City received 21 proposals requesting approximately \$26.3 million dollars in funding for various projects. All applications were reviewed for submittal requirements as outlined in the Final Rule, and the Compliance and Reporting Guidance. After the eligibility review, 11 eligible applications were presented to the ARPA Scoring Committee on May 31, 2022 and of the 11, 10 were recommended for funding.

The ARPA Scoring Committee met on July 21, 2022, and recommended funding for ten projects, totaling \$9,594,653. Of those ten projects, Community Foundation of Southern NM/Bitwise Industries were awarded \$1,000,000 to support a workforce training project. However, it was announced on June 1, 2023 that Bitwise Industries would cease plans to expand operations in Las Cruces.

In response, the recommendation from City Manager's Office was to create new workforce programming. As a result, five new projects were proposed and presented before the Economic Development Policy Review Committee, on August 23, 2023, ranging from assistance to those experiencing homelessness, to support for childcare providers. The total recommended allocation for all five programs is \$940,000.00 with an additional \$60,000.00 allocated to Community Foundation of Southern NM for administrative costs to include oversight, monitoring and reporting of all programs. And a final allocation of \$50,000.00 for evaluation costs of all programs. Details of programming can be found in Attachment "A".

Agenda Item #3.1.

SUPPORT INFORMATION:

[Exhibit "A" ARPA Project Budget 2023](#)

PLAN(S):

City Council Strategic Plan, Elevate Las Cruces

COMMITTEE/BOARD REVIEW:

Economic Development PRC

PROJECTS	BUDGET
Transitional Job Training	\$240,000.00
Childcare Microgrant Program	\$150,000.00
Childcare Provider Accelerator Program	\$150,000.00
Apprenticeship/Pre-Apprenticeship	\$300,000.00
Manufacturing Training	\$100,000.00
TOTAL	\$940,000.00

An additional \$60,000.00 to be allocated to Community Foundation of Southern NM for administrative costs to include oversight, monitoring and reporting of all programs, \$50,000.00 allocated for evaluation costs of all programs, for a total cost of \$1,050,000.00.