

CITY MANAGER REPORT: STATUS UPDATE ON CITY'S ARPA PROGRAM

SUMMARY

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), the City of Oklahoma City received an allocation of \$122.5 million in Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds (Fiscal Recovery Funds). The funds are intended to provide support to State, local, and Tribal governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain COVID-19 on their communities, residents, and businesses. In September of 2021, City Council approved a Fiscal Recovery Funds Plan, which provides for various programs and projects under three broad categories with established allocations as follows.

Use Categories

1. Revenue Replacement: Restoring Government Projects, Infrastructure, and Services (\$78,507,590)
2. Response to Negative Economic Impacts (\$37,000,000)
3. Response to Public Health Emergency (\$7,000,000)

These funds must be obligated by December 2024 and spent by 2026. Currently, the City has allocated 99.84%, obligated 14%, and spent 36% of its ARPA funds and is on track to meet spending deadlines.

STATUS OF PROGRAMS

Further information on projects/programs and the status of contracts for each is summarized under the Use Categories below.

1. Revenue Replacement: Restoring Government Projects, Infrastructure, and Services

This category provides funding based on a formula to replace City revenue lost due to COVID-19. Funds can be used to restore City projects, infrastructure and services, such as modernization of IT department hardware and software, maintenance of or building new infrastructure, and capital improvements. City Council has approved the following projects to be funded under the revenue replacement category. Currently, 100% has been allocated within this category and 14% has been spent.

- **Back Up Generators for Fire Facilities**

Funded amount: \$1,500,000 *Obligated amount:* \$131,130

Status: Project Manager is working with Design Architects Plus on the assessment. They have surveyed and assessed 36 fire facilities/work sites, and final plans are underway. Staff anticipates bidding the project in May 2024 and being able to obligate funds in June 2024.

- **Replace Midwest Blvd. Bridge**

Funded amount: \$2,750,000 *Obligated amount:* \$313,461

Status: The scope of work is to replace the existing bridge on Midwest Boulevard over Crutch Creek. Final plans have been received and are in review.

- **Improvements at Wiley Post Park**

Funded amount: \$5,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$400,200

Status: The master plan for Wiley Post Park outlines a multi-phase renovation that would transform the park on both the south and north side of the Oklahoma River using funding from various sources, including a possible inclusion in the City's next bond program. This phase includes changes to the Event Center, Large Pavilion, and North Entry Plaza, as well as construction of an iconic pedestrian suspension bridge over the river. The design is underway, and staff anticipates bidding in Fall 2024 to allow funds to be obligated in December 2024.

- **Public Safety Training Center Funding**

Funded amount: \$6,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$513,038

Status: This funding will add a driving facility to the Public Safety Training Facility. The Design Contract was approved by City Council on October 10, 2023. ADG is currently working on the Preliminary Design.

- **Various Cyber Security Improvements**

Funded amount: \$5,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$3,422,115

Status: Through February 14, 2024, \$3.2 million has been spent for various cybersecurity and technology improvements. Items purchased included USB security keys, hard drive upgrades, and data protection appliances.

- **Additional Sidewalk Improvements**

Funded amount: \$5,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$412,200

Status: Planning submitted a list of potential sidewalk locations to be considered as a scope of work. These locations will coordinate with other funded projects and provide key connectors for the public. The Preliminary Report was approved by City Council on February 27, 2024.

- **Add Alternates at Cameron Park**

Funded amount: \$1,500,000 *Obligated amount:* \$1,204,370

Status: The original Cameron Park Project bid with field lighting as an alternate. Due to budget constraints, the alternate was not awarded. The ARPA Funding will allow the field lighting to be added as a companion project. The construction contract was awarded to Wynn Construction and approved at the January 16, 2024 Council meeting for \$1,170,000. Terracon Consulting was assigned as the testing laboratory.

- **Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) Investments in Capitol Hill**

Funded amount: \$2,700,000 *Obligated amount:* \$0

Status: The original effort was to provide conceptual plans for closing a block of Harvey Avenue and creating a community festival area and a trail connection to Wiley Post Park. The design is being funded with CDBG Funding, and the construction will utilize the ARPA Funding. 90% Plans for the plaza are in review by Public Works and 30% Plans for the Trail are in review by BNSF. Staff anticipates bidding the plaza in Spring 2024 and the trail in Fall 2024.

- **Bike Lanes on Eastern from S. Grand to SE 59th**
Funded amount: \$720,000 *Obligated amount:* \$0
Status: Smith Roberts Balischwiler submitted a fee proposal on December 14, 2023, and the design contract is being processed by Public Works Contract Administration.
- **NW 10th St. Bridge over Grand Blvd**
Funded amount: \$8,750,000 *Obligated amount:* \$855,936
Status: The scope of work is to rehabilitate the east- and westbound lanes of the NW 10th Street Bridge over North Grand Boulevard. CEC is currently working on the final Plans.
- **Replace Fire Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)**
Funded amount: \$2,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$0
Status: Fire is planning the process and timeline for the “wear testing/wear trial” period. Fire is considering testing products from three different manufacturers and are targeting replacement by June 2024. After July 1st we will start work on an RFP and begin a wear test before final approval. An additional \$2 million was added in Fire’s FY24 budget for a total of \$4 million available for the replacement of SCBAs.
- **S. May Avenue Trail (aka Airport Trail)**
Funded amount: \$4,500,000 *Obligated amount:* \$390,652
Status: The scope of work is to create a north-south connection from the Woodson Park Area to the vicinity around Oklahoma City Community College. The alignment has been chosen, and the survey is underway. The Preliminary Report is in review by Public Works.
- **Post Road Widening Design and Construction**
Funded amount: \$16,850,000 *Obligated amount:* \$2,264,719
Status: The Post Road Widening Project (PC-0926) will be joined with a water line project (WC-1023) for both design and construction, and the combined project has been broken into two phases: Phase I is SE 74th from Douglas to Post and Post from SE 74th to SE 59th and Phase II is SE 44th from Douglas to Post and Post from SE 59th to SE 44th. Council approved the advertisement of the Phase I bid on February 13, 2024, and the bid opening is scheduled for March 27, 2024. Phase II Plans are anticipated In May 2024. ROW Acquisition is underway for both phases.
- **Post Road Water Line Design**
Funded amount: \$3,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$0
Status: The Post Road Water Line Project (WC-1023) will be joined by a roadway project (PC-0926) for both design and construction, and the combined project has been broken into two phases: Phase I is SE 74th from Douglas to Post and Post from SE 74th to SE 59th and Phase II is SE 44th from Douglas to Post and Post from SE 59th to SE 44th. Council approved the advertisement of the Phase I bid on February 13, 2024, and the bid opening is scheduled for March 27, 2024. Phase II Plans are anticipated In May 2024. ROW Acquisition is underway for both phases.
- **Fairgrounds Coliseum**
Funded amount: \$5,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$5,000,000

Status: The Fairgrounds Coliseum project will replace the Norick Arena at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, which opened in 1964 and has taken full advantage of its practical life. The venue has historically had the largest economic impact of all publicly owned facilities in the city. The new venue will continue to attract local, state, and national events. The \$144 million project will receive \$82 million from the MAPS 4 Sales Tax. Additional funding sources include at least \$25 million in funds from Hotel/Motel Tax, \$9 million from MAPS 3 Sales Tax excess tax collections, \$6 million from State Fair funds and naming rights, \$5 million from the ARPA grant, and funds from other sources. The Coliseum will include a mix of fixed and retractable seats, first-class patron amenities, and a modern, wide concourse. As envisioned, the project will be constructed south of the existing Norick Arena. Upon completion, the Norick Arena will be demolished and removed. The project is expected to be completed in 2025. All of the \$5,000,000 ARPA funds have been expended for this project.

- **Fire Station Remodels**

Funded amount: \$2,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$0

Status: Fire Renovation/Remodel Project Manager is working with GH2 Architects. They are working on completing the plans, getting the building permits, and providing consultation to General Services and the Fire Renovation Team as needed during the construction.

- **SNI Investments – Capitol View**

Funded amount: \$2,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$353,000

Status: The former Dewey Elementary School site was chosen as the site selection and purchased on December 22, 2023. A work order has been issued to have the property surveyed. The City will utilize CBDG funds for the design and scope of work on the project. The project will be broken into two phases – Phase I will be demolition of the existing infrastructure and Phase II will be construction of the new park. The Parks Department is doing the design in-house.

- **SNI Investments – Transit Facility Improvements**

Funded amount: \$1,000,000 *Obligated amount:* \$35,513

Status: The scope of work for the allocated ARPA funds are being proposed to move from the Transit Facility to the EMBARK parking lot project. An item will be taken to Council for approval of the modification of the project description for this project. The design contract for the EMBARK parking lot is on the February EMBARK Trust docket.

- **SNI Investments – Traffic Signals**

Funded amount: \$1,137,590 *Obligated amount:* \$139,580

Status: This funding is to replace City traffic signals that are not functioning well and creating safety issues in high volume traffic areas. The areas that have been identified for replacement are the intersections at N May Avenue and NW 192nd Street, Greenfield Center Drive and W Reno Avenue, and Danforth Farms Boulevard/Dartmoor Boulevard and NW 192nd Street. The work order for design was issued on January 22, 2024.

- **SNI Investments – Cameron Park Irrigation Water Line**

Funded amount: \$1,600,000 *Obligated amount:* \$1,430,000

Status: The MAPS 4 Sales Tax is being used to fund various upgrades to Cameron Park. This includes upgrades for the clubhouse, lighting, concessions, bleachers, sidewalks, restrooms, and fencing throughout the park. ARPA funding is being used for the Installation of a new waterline from Lake Hefner that will feed the new and existing water irrigation lines at the park. The construction contract was awarded to Wynn Construction and approved at the February 13, 2024 Council meeting.

- **SNI Investments – Bricktown Lighting in South Canal**

Funded amount: \$500,000 *Obligated amount:* \$0

Status: This funding is to replace the lighting in our Bricktown district along the canal south of Reno Avenue. The preliminary report is anticipated in February 2024.

2. Response to Negative Economic Impacts

This category allows for the use of Fiscal Recovery Funds for programs and projects that directly address the negative economic impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Assistance is available in the areas of small business technical assistance and retrofits, minority business assistance and nonprofit assistance, job training and placement, and workforce and affordable housing. An update on the status of projects within the following subcategories is provided below.

A. Affordable Housing Program (\$8,250,000)

In July 2022, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) from residential developers, including non-profit developers, housing organizations, and service organizations to provide proposals for the construction and/or rehabilitation of affordable housing to generally serve households with incomes under 60% of Area Median Income. The RFP set forth project eligibility criteria and outlined the selection process for evaluating proposals. A Selection Committee was formed per City policy that included designees from the City Manager, Finance Director, Planning Director, and Municipal Counselor's Office.

The City received 21 proposals for affordable housing projects, which totaled about \$49M in funding requests. The Committee evaluated the proposals based on whether they met requirements of the RFP and ARPA, project readiness, and the Proposer's qualifications, experience and track record, and capacity and capability. Committee members ranked projects according to these criteria with consideration of the distinguishing merits of each. Committee members also evaluated the following priorities:

- supporting the greatest number of projects possible in a meaningful way with City ARPA funds;
- achieving units that remain affordable for a long time; and
- supporting the most vulnerable populations consistent with the intent of the RFP.

The Committee worked with the top nine (9) proposers to negotiate grant funds requested so that the City could assist the maximum number of projects with the \$8,250,000 available in ARPA funding. The nine selected projects propose to generate a total of 589 units of affordable housing that include a variety of unit types focused on our most vulnerable populations. All projects have an extended affordability period well beyond 20 years.

All nine funding agreements were issued in 2023. As of February 12, 2024, one project, HOPEforward, which was rehabilitation of an old hotel to create 10 new housing units is completed. Construction has been initiated on three projects. The remaining five projects have not yet obtained building permits or started on site-construction work, but all are expected to begin in spring/early summer of 2024.

B. Small Business / Non-Profit Assistance Program (\$15,750,000)

1) United Way

In February of 2022, the City allocated \$1,000,000 of ARPA funds to the United Way of Central Oklahoma to offset lost revenues to their annual campaign due to the COVID-19 health crisis. Dollars raised through United Way's campaign are used to support to the work being done by its partner agencies. As such, these ARPA funds were distributed to partner agencies that have a physical presence in Oklahoma City to offset the reduction in allocable dollars available, and funding awards are based on the shortfall in allocable dollars from the previous year's campaign.

A total of forty-nine partner agencies located within the city limits of Oklahoma City received a combined total of \$1,000,000 through this funding for use solely within the Oklahoma City limits. United Way agencies were informed that the goal of these funds is to help its agencies address the ongoing needs of the community for critical programs and resources, and that if not all funds provided were utilized that they must be returned; all agencies utilized these funds during the allocation cycle as intended.

2) Arts Non-Profit Recovery Program

The City allocated \$1,000,000 under the Non-Profit Assistance Program to Allied Arts to support eligible cultural and arts non-profits needing assistance to recover from the negative impacts of COVID-19. Allied Arts opened applications on May 4, 2022 and received 24 applications with requests eclipsing the \$912,500 available. After reviewing all applications, Allied Arts determined three of the 24 applications to be ineligible and recommended award amounts for the remaining 21 applicants. After City staff reviewed the approved applications, documentations, and Allied Arts' recommendations, adjustments to award requests were made as the program did not have sufficient funding to fulfill all requests. Review and follow-ups were completed in October and program funds were awarded to successful applicants in November.

The 21 arts and cultural nonprofits awarded money serve a cumulative total of 2,564,512 Oklahoma City residents.

Applicant	Ward	Annual Budget Category	Residents Served Annually	Request	Award
Aalim Dance Academy	2	\$100,000 or Less	100	\$26,260.00	\$5,000.00
Ambassadors Concert Choir	7	\$100,000 or Less	2,500	\$16,592.00	\$6,000.00
Brightmusic Society	6	\$100,000 or Less	1,000	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Metropolitan School of Dance	6	\$100,000 or Less	6,500	\$99,900.00	\$25,954.97
Oklahoma Museums Association	7	\$101,000 to \$500,000	8,000	\$45,960.00	\$25,000.00
Oklahoma Shakespeare	2	\$101,000 to \$500,000	10,000	\$59,802.20	\$35,000.00
Opry Heritage Foundation of Oklahoma	6	\$101,000 to \$500,000	2,000	\$58,640.85	\$35,000.00
Prairie Dance Theatre	2	\$101,000 to \$500,000	3,500	\$34,000.00	\$20,000.00
Oklahoma Youth Orchestras	2	\$101,000 to \$500,000	1,000	\$43,239.14	\$35,000.00
Painted Sky Opera	2	\$101,000 to \$500,000	12,500	\$36,196.00	\$15,000.00
Plaza District Association	6	\$101,000 to \$500,000	1,000,000	\$44,042.12	\$5,000.00
Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre	6	\$501,000 to \$1,000,000	2,000	\$46,033.00	\$20,000.00
Oklahoma Children's Theatre	2	\$501,000 to \$1,000,000	15,000	\$32,250.00	\$32,250.00
Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition	6	\$501,000 to \$1,000,000	20,000	\$18,828.00	\$18,828.00
Canterbury Voices	6	\$501,000 to \$1,000,000	16,246	\$42,430.00	\$25,000.00
Oklahoma City Philharmonic	6	\$1,000,000 or Greater	200,000	\$250,000.00	\$100,000.00
Lyric Theatre	6	\$1,000,000 or Greater	30,000	\$236,346.00	\$100,000.00
Oklahoma City Museum of Art	6	\$1,000,000 or Greater	75,000	\$125,660.61	\$125,000.00
Oklahoma Contemporary	6	\$1,000,000 or Greater	55,166	\$99,124.52	\$86,545.00
Arts Council Oklahoma City	6	\$1,000,000 or Greater	1,000,000	\$125,660.61	\$125,000.00
National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum	7	\$1,000,000 or Greater	70,000	\$479,288.00	\$67,922.03
TOTALS			2,564,512	\$1,925,253.05	\$912,500.00

3) Alliance for Economic Development – Business Support Program

In February 2022, the City entered into an agreement with the Alliance for Economic Development (The Alliance) to provide operational and program services for three programs under the Negative Economic Impacts category: the Small Business / Non-Profit Assistance Program, the Minority / Disadvantaged Business Technical Assistance Program, and Job Training Program – collectively called the Business Support Program. The Alliance created multiple programs that fall within each of these categories and are captured in the following sections of this report. From 2022 to 2023, some of these programs were operated under the name OKC Rescue Program.

To date, 99% of Business Support Program dollars have been allocated and 43% have been spent.

	Actual	Budget	%
Obligated by The City	\$ 20,250,000	\$ 20,250,000	100%
Allocated (Programs Approved)	\$ 19,393,661	\$ 20,250,000	99%
Spent (Benefit received by Beneficiary)	\$ 8,764,636	\$ 20,250,000	43%

The following programs fall under the Small Business / Non-Profit Support component of the Business Support Program.

- Technical Assistance Program**

Funded Amount: \$4,200,000

Status: Program provides up to \$15,000 for small businesses and non-profits to receive various types of technical assistance, including accounting, HR, legal,

marketing, website design, business strategy, and architectural and engineering services. City Manager approved the program on April 14, 2022.

Since the application opened on April 18, 2022, the Alliance has qualified 265 business/nonprofits for services and completed \$3,689,282 in services for 251 small businesses and nonprofits. 75% of program participants were minority-owned businesses, 47% were located in a QCT, and 14% were nonprofits. Program ongoing.

- **Pandemic Mitigation Program**

Funded Amount: \$1,100,000

Status: Program approved on April 14, 2022. Program provides reimbursement up to \$25,000 for small businesses to cover the reasonable cost of COVID-19 mitigation and prevention measures, such as: ventilation improvements, outdoor patios, customer drive-thrus, barriers/partitions, or adapting outdoor spaces for business delivery.

Since the application opened on April 18, 2022, the Alliance has qualified 52 small businesses for Pandemic Mitigation funding and processed funding for 33 small businesses totaling \$562,224 in reimbursements. Of those qualified to receive funding, 75% were minority-owned businesses and 61% were located in a QCT.

- **Business District Capacity Building Program**

Funded Amount: \$530,000

Status: Program approved on November 15, 2022. The program provides two years of flexible funding for business districts that are 501(C)(3) organizations, under contract with the City's CDRP or BID programs, and that operate in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs). Eligible uses of funds include coverage for pandemic-related fundraising losses, payroll and benefits, and technical assistance services for the district.

The Alliance has provided two grant payments over the previous two years totaling \$470,000. Grants were awarded to eight nonprofit business districts: Asian District, Automobile Alley, Capitol Hill Calle Dos Cinco, Midtown, Plaza District, Stockyards District, West Village (formerly Film Row), and WesTen. The Alliance is continuing to monitor grant funding through 2024.

- **StitchCrew Accelerator Program**

Funded Amount: \$1,200,000

Status: Program approved on September 26, 2022. The StitchCrew program is an eight-week business accelerator that teaches startup mechanics, financial fundamentals, growth strategies, marketing, and capital access. The program provides culturally sensitive instruction with a curriculum focused on the unique challenges Latino entrepreneurs face. Upon program graduation, participants will be eligible for a \$15,000 grant to implement strategies and goals developed in the accelerator.

StitchCrew has completed two cohorts of the StitchCrew Latino Accelerator, served 20 minority-owned small businesses, and helped facilitated \$300,000 in grant funds for those businesses. The third cohort will start in March 2024 and the fourth cohort will start in September 2024.

- **Community Engagement and Outreach**

Funded Amount: \$915,000

Status: Marketing of programs and services to small businesses through social media, targeted online advertisement, and outreach at community events. Current work is focused on a website re-design to reflect forthcoming workforce development programs and accelerator services. Project approved on April 14, 2022. Project ongoing.

- **Program Technology**

Funded Amount: \$775,000

Status: Project approved on April 14, 2022. The Alliance worked with developers Agile Cloud Consulting and LMRoss to create an online application and backend application process for the Technical Assistance, Façade and Storefront Improvement, and Pandemic Mitigation programs. The backend application feeds into a Salesforce CRM database that is used to track services rendered and awards issued. Project ongoing.

- **OKC Minority Founder Accelerator (OMFA)**

Funded Amount: \$1,500,000

Status: Program approved on December 13, 2022. OMFA is a 20-week business accelerator operated by Northeast OKC Renaissance (NEOKCR) and i2E. The program teaches startup mechanics, financial fundamentals, growth strategies, marketing, and capital access using culturally sensitive instruction focused on the unique challenges minority entrepreneurs face. Upon program graduation, participants will be eligible for a \$10,000 or \$20,000 grant (based on revenue at start of program) to implement strategies and goals developed in the accelerator.

NEOKCR and i2E have completed two cohorts of the OMFA, served 20 minority-owned small businesses, and helped facilitated \$230,000 in grant funds for those businesses. The third cohort started in January 2024 and fourth cohort will start in late Spring 2024.

- **ProgressOKC Accelerator**

Funded Amount: \$260,000

Status: Program approved on December 12, 2022. ProgressOKC operates the Generation Impact Accelerator, a 16 week program that teaches startup mechanics, financial fundamentals, growth strategies, marketing, and capital access, with curriculum specifically tailored to start-up, early stage and microbusinesses. Upon program graduation, participants will be eligible for a \$6,000 to implement strategies and goals developed in the accelerator.

In December 2023, Progress OKC completed the first cohort of the Generation Impact, which served 11 microbusinesses businesses and facilitated \$66,000 in

grant funds for those businesses. The second cohort started in January 2024 and will be complete in May 2024.

- **SNI Storefront Program**

Funded Amount: \$225,000

Status: Program approved on September 21, 2023. The program provides reimbursement for façade and storefront improvements, like signage, windows, painting, etc. The program operates exactly like the Façade and Storefront Program, except eligibility is limited to SNI neighborhoods and participants have 6 months (instead of 12 months) to complete improvements and submit for reimbursement. The application for this program launched January 8, 2024, and closed February 16, 2024.

C. Minority / Disadvantaged Business Technical Assistance (\$4,200,000)

1) Alliance for Economic Development – Business Support Program

The Alliance for Economic Development provides operational and program services for the Business Support Program, which includes a Minority / Disadvantaged Business Support and Technical Assistance component. The status of individual programs follows.

- **Façade and Storefront Improvement Program**

Funded Amount: \$1,200,000

Status: Program approved on April 14, 2022. The program provides reimbursement up to \$25,000 for small businesses to cover the reasonable cost of façade and storefront improvements, such as signage, façade repair, exterior painting, window replacement, and awnings.

Since the application opened on April 18, 2022, the Alliance has qualified 88 small businesses for Façade and Storefront Improvement and processed funding for 59 small businesses totaling \$910,477 in value. Of those qualified to receive funding, 76% were minority-owned businesses and 60% were in a QCT.

- **Real Deal Accelerator Program**

Funded Amount: \$2,150,000

Status: Program approved on July 17, 2022. The Real Deal program is a five-month business growth program focused on strategy, finances, leadership, and operations. One-on-one meetings with instructors and guest experts help businesses develop a strategic plan, known as the Playbook™. Graduates of the five-month program will be eligible for grants to implement their strategic plan; grant values range from \$12,000-\$45,000 based on the number of employees. Additional programming called Peer Group and Alumni Services support small business owners after they finish the five-month program.

In 2022 and 2023, Real Deal completed two cohorts of the five-month accelerator program which served 40 small businesses. \$535,000 in grants have been awarded to graduates of the Real Deal program. Alumni programming served seven small

businesses and Peer Group programming served 12 small businesses. The third and final cohort of the Real Deal program will start in August 2024.

- **Minority Supplier Program**

Funded Amount: \$1,000,000

Status: Program approved on March 7, 2023. The program provides services to minority-owned firms looking to obtain competitive contracting opportunities. Services are provided by the Urban League, Hispanic Chamber, and REI Oklahoma. Minority owned businesses can receive help applying for contracting opportunities, becoming registered as a vendor with government and corporate entities, getting certified as a minority-owned business, accounting services to get registered as a Public Works vendor, attend workshops and networking events focused on procurement-related topics, and access to capital to mobilize under contract.

80 minority-owned firms have been approved and started to receive Services from the Urban League, Hispanic Chamber, and REI. Two networking sessions and 13 workshops have been held so far.

D. Job Training (\$4,000,000)

1) Alliance for Economic Development – Business Support Program

The Alliance for Economic Development provides operational and program services for the Business Support Program, which includes a Job Training / Upskilling Workforce Development component. The status of individual programs follows.

- **ReMerge Program**

Funded Amount: \$243,111

Status: Program approved on November 15, 2022. The ReMerge Digital Skills Career Pathway Training program provides 13 weeks of instruction and hands-on experience in coding and IT support to mothers in the criminal justice system. ReMerge Career Readiness offers wrap around services to help participants develop industry-agnostic soft skills, prepare for interviews, and manage the job search process. Catalyst Cookies provides culinary skill development and ServSafe certification.

The first cohort of Digital Skills participants graduated in September 2023 and the second cohort started in December 2023. 61 individuals have been approved for and participated in Career Readiness and Catalyst Cookies thus far. Project ongoing.

- **Mid-America Christian University (MACU) Program**

Funded Amount: \$100,000

Status: Program approved on December 12, 2022. MACU will utilize ARPA funds to provide scholarships for eligible students enrolled in cybersecurity and data analytics courses.

Twelve students have received eligibility and three students received scholarships in Fall 2023. Project ongoing.

- **Homeless Alliance (Curbside) Program**

Funded Amount: \$265,800

Status: Program approved on December 12, 2022. Homeless Alliance provides job training for Curbside Apparel, a social enterprise program that teaches homeless individuals screen printing production and retail operations. Homeless Alliance also provides Employment Support, which is case management to help homeless individuals transition out of homelessness through housing and career support. Curbside Flowers and Curbside Apparel program participants are eligible for Employment Support.

Five participants completed the first cohort of Curbside Apparel in September 2023. The second cohort of nine Curbside Apparel participants started training in November 2023. 36 individuals from Curbside Apparel and Curbside Flowers have received Employment Support. Project ongoing.

- **OKCoders Program**

Funded Amount: \$300,000

Status: Program approved on December 22, 2022. OKCoders is six-month, part-time coding bootcamp where participants can learn coding and software development skills. After the coding bootcamp, OKCoders works with Techlahoma and the Verge to place graduates into internships with local technology companies, so participants can apply the skills they learned in the program.

The first cohort of OKCoders graduated five participants in September 2023 and all five participants started internships with local technology companies. The second cohort of OKCoders started in February 2024 and is scheduled to finish in August 2024.

- **Regional Food Bank/TEEM Program**

Funded Amount: \$750,000

Status: Program approved on January 3, 2023. Regional Food Bank (RFBO) and TEEM provide culinary training to participants who are justice-involved. Participants undergo eight weeks of intensive culinary training and receive a ServSafe certificate and experience working in commercial kitchens.

To date, 15 individuals over three cohorts have completed the RFBO/TEEM culinary training. The fourth cohort started in February 2024.

- **Rose State Program**

Funded Amount: \$200,750

Status: Program approved on January 3, 2023. Rose State offers eligible students studying cybersecurity scholarships, class material assistance, tutoring, and resume writing assistance.

Three students received scholarships and 12 students received class material assistance in Fall 2023.

- **Code Fellows Program**

Funded Amount: \$1,000,000

Status: Program approved on January 3, 2023. Code Fellows offers a robust online coding bootcamp with two learning tracks: (1) software development and (2) operations and cybersecurity. Each track offers four progressive levels of courses leading to advanced subject mastery. Students can complete the coursework in a live, virtual cohort or through self-paced, interactive modules.

31 participants have started or completed either a software-development or an ops and cybersecurity course. In total, 90 participants have been approved for services and Code Fellows is working to get the other 59 students signed up for specific course start dates.

- **RestoreOKC Program**

Funded Amount: \$250,000

Status: Program approved on February 9, 2023. RestoreOKC provides janitorial and housekeeping training through the Wellspring Cleaning training program. Participants get hands-on experience supporting the Wellspring Cleaning social enterprise, which allows low-income and vulnerable participants stability and structure necessary to start rebuilding their lives. RestoreOKC also has participants attend WorkLife and MoneyLife classes, to learn essential life and money management skills necessary for long-term employability and economic advancement.

RestoreOKC has served nine different women in the Wellspring Cleaning program since August 2023 and two participants have graduated the MoneyLife class.

- **It's My Community Initiative (IMCI) Program**

Funded Amount: \$1,250,000

Status: Program approved on February 9, 2023. It's My Community Initiative (IMCI) collaborates with the Work Ready Oklahoma to partner low-income participants with local workforce development job training partners. Participants can receive training in a range of industries from culinary to housekeeping to administrative to CDL. Participants also receive wrap around case management services.

IMCI has received approval for 48 individuals to begin training, 75% identified as a racial/ethnic minority. Three individuals completed commercial truck drivers training and 36 individuals received one-on-one coaching sessions.

E. Tourism Recovery (\$5,000,000)

1) CVB (\$4,500,000)

In April, 2022, City Council approved an agreement with the Oklahoma City Economic Development Foundation, Inc. to provide \$4.28 million to the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) for services that encourage, promote, and foster the development of Oklahoma City. Due to the negative economic impact of COVID-19 on tourism, the CVB had to curtail its promotional activities in support of tourism, travel, and hospitality. The funds must be spent by December 1, 2024. As of December 31, 2023, \$1,988,738 million has been allocated for marketing production, visitor experience, event promotion and customer development.

2) ASM Event Promotion (\$500,000)

In June 2022, the City approved an agreement with SMG an operating entity of ASM Global, allocating \$500,000 for marketing events at Paycom Center. The funds are slated for marketing shows/events outside the OKC metro and grouped by genre (country, pop, rock, religious, dirt shows, etc.). To date, \$52,165.77 has been spent on event promotion at Paycom Center.

3. Response to Public Health Emergency (\$7,000,000)

This category allows for the use of Fiscal Recovery Funds to provide programs related to COVID-19 vaccinations, testing, tracing, COVID case monitoring, vaccine promotion, public health facility construction and infrastructure, testing and vaccine equipment and supplies, and sewage monitoring.

A. Oklahoma City-County Health Department (\$5,000,000)

In December of 2021, Council approved an agreement with the City-County Health Department (OCCHD) for the following programs.

1) Tracking and Analysis (\$200,000)

This project included technology for the collection and display of public health information related to COVID-19 in Oklahoma City as well as the surrounding areas. In September 2023, OCCHD requested to reallocate funds from this project to the Permanent & Mobile Health Centers project under the subcategory below.

2) Permanent and Mobile Health Centers (\$4,050,000)

This subcategory includes the construction of a permanent health center in south Oklahoma City to provide COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and health screenings. This also includes purchase of vehicles, trailers, tents and other supplies used to set up mobile or remote testing and vaccine sites. Total expenditures on this project are \$3,547,371.17 for the mobile unit and construction costs on the permanent structure through December 2023.

3) Communications and Information (\$750,000)

This subcategory includes the cost of outreach, advertising, and media buys to provide residents information about testing, preventative measures, the vaccine, and other

messages that are necessary to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The full allocation has been expended on the “Choose Today” media campaign.

B. University of Oklahoma (\$1,000,000)

In March of 2022, Council approved an agreement with the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma (“University”) to conduct research of local wastewater to assess the prevalence and transmission of COVID-19 within Oklahoma City or similar communities. The University, with partners at the OU Health Sciences Center, has been utilizing the ARPA funding to monitor SARS-CoV-2 and a suite of other pathogens in wastewater across Oklahoma City. This data is utilized to survey and predict COVID-19 and other infectious disease prevalence at the population level and track trends in the number of cases in OKC.

In the case of COVID-19, they are able to predict case numbers a week in advance of when they are reported from within the sewage drainage area. This monitoring has been completed twice weekly at both the wastewater treatment plant scale, and at the neighborhood scale. The data is provided on a public dashboard that is updated twice a week. The team at OU also meets with representatives from the City of Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma City County Health Department on a biweekly basis to discuss implications and evolving uses for these results. For the first six months of the contract, they monitored 13 neighborhoods in Oklahoma City.

In August 2022, they modified the neighborhood locations to only three representative neighborhoods; the public was no longer responding to the additional information at the neighborhood level, but the representative neighborhood information was still valuable to the public health community in Oklahoma City.

A no-cost extension was granted until August 31, 2023 to utilize the remaining funds for waste water treatment plant monitoring and limited neighborhood analysis. The project is now complete, and the Oklahoma State Department of Health has taken over funding of sampling at two treatment plants in Oklahoma City.

C. Griffin Memorial Hospital (\$1,000,000)

In January 2023, Council approved a Resolution allocating \$1,000,000 for the relocation of Griffin Memorial Hospital to Oklahoma City and approved a funding agreement with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS). ODMHSAS is planning on constructing the replacement facility for Griffin Memorial Hospital within the corporate limits of The City of Oklahoma City. ODMHSAS has invoiced the City for its contribution to this project to secure the lease on the site for the future facility.