

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: August 2, 2022

TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Office of Strategy, Budget & Performance (SBP)
Ashley Adsit, Director, Project Management Office

SUBJECT: The Office of Strategy, Budget & Performance (SBP) requests \$2,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for a Matching Grant Pilot Program

FILE TYPE: Action Report

REQUEST

The Office of Strategy, Budget & Performance (SBP) requests \$2,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for a Matching Grant Pilot Program project within the Revenue Loss Recovery Expenditure Category.

POLICY

Milwaukee County Board file 21-555: “A resolution to create a Task Force to review and recommend funding allocations to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors for monies received by the County in the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021”

BACKGROUND

The Revenue Loss Recovery Subgroup was established to generate project-level allocation recommendations to improve the fiscal health of Milwaukee County and strengthen support for vital public services. Subgroup leaders recommend the Matching Grant Pilot Program as a viable strategy in support of the County’s fiscal health goals.

PRIORITIZED PROJECT

The Office of SBP proposes to reserve \$2M in ARPA aid for matching funds for new competitive grant opportunities to stimulate grant development across County departments. By removing a common barrier to pursuing new grant funds, the matching fund reserve will alleviate financial strain and support the programmatic goals of County service areas.

The pilot will be facilitated by the Project Management Office (PMO) within SBP. The PMO will communicate the availability of matching funds to departments and continue to provide grant development support as described in AMOP 11.02: [Grant System of Support](#). The unit will be notified of the need for matching funds through the [Grant Intent Notification](#) process (AMOP 11.01) and will track project statuses and availability of matching funds through 2024. Due to the nature of grant spending timelines, the pilot project will accommodate grant proposals submitted through 10/1/2023 to meet ARPA requirements. *Note: The matching fund reserve will only be used when other resources are unavailable, to preserve the availability of funds.*

Summer 2022-Fall 2023: Grant application period

Spring 2023-Fall 2024: Grant and matching fund spending period

Success will be measured by documenting the return on matching fund investment. For instance, it is anticipated that \$1,000,000 in matching funds will allow Milwaukee County to secure at least \$4,000,000 in new grant revenue, assuming a 25% match requirement. If successful, the pilot will initiate an increase in grant development activity and could be sustained and operationalized through annual reserves.

The overarching goal of the program is to maintain a 75% return on matching fund investment. For every \$1 of local Milwaukee County funds contributed to a project, \$3 will be received from an external source.

Please see Attachment A: ARPA Proposal - Matching Grant Pilot Program.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors approve \$2,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to implement the Matching Grant Pilot Program.

PREPARED BY:

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ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Grant revenue allows Milwaukee County to enhance existing programs and provide innovative upstream services that address the needs of the Milwaukee community. Grant funds allow for the piloting of promising practices in Milwaukee County's dynamic community and can inform future budgetary and strategy decisions. Overall, new grant revenues support the following strategic objectives:

- Determine what, where and how we deliver services based on the resolution of health disparities.
- Invest upstream to address root causes of health disparities.
- Enhance the county's fiscal health and sustainability.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: ARPA Proposal - Matching Grant Pilot Program