March 18, 2021

Presiding Commissioner Bob Dixon and Members of the Greene County Commission
Greene County Commission Office
1443 N. Robberson Ave., 10th Floor
Springfield, Missouri 65802

Mayor Ken McClure and Members of the Springfield City Council
Busch Municipal Building
840 Boonville Avenue
4th Floor
Springfield, Missouri 65802

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As you know, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law last week and included Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds for states, counties, and cities. Initial indications are that Missouri will receive approximately $3.5 billion, Greene County will receive $57 million, and Springfield will receive $39 million. Although final details regarding the use of these funds are not yet available, general guidance on the use of these funds follows:

Funds can only be used for the following purposes until December 31, 2024:

- To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- To respond to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic, **including aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.**
- To cover premium pay to workers performing essential tasks during the pandemic.
- To cover government revenue losses that are due to the pandemic.
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

It is our understanding that funds will be available for capital projects and aid to the tourism, travel, and hospitality industry is specified in the language of the bill. Although final guidance on how funds can be used could be more restrictive than what is described in the general guidance, we believe there could be a one-time opportunity to vastly improve our amateur sports facilities over and above what Springfield City Council has already done for our soccer facilities.

Improving our amateur sports facilities would provide immediate and long-term benefits to Springfield's tourism, travel, and hospitality industry and Springfield's economy in general through the overnight travel generated by the ability to host more and larger sporting events. On top of the economic impact improved facilities would generate, they would enhance the quality of life and sense of place of our local citizens.

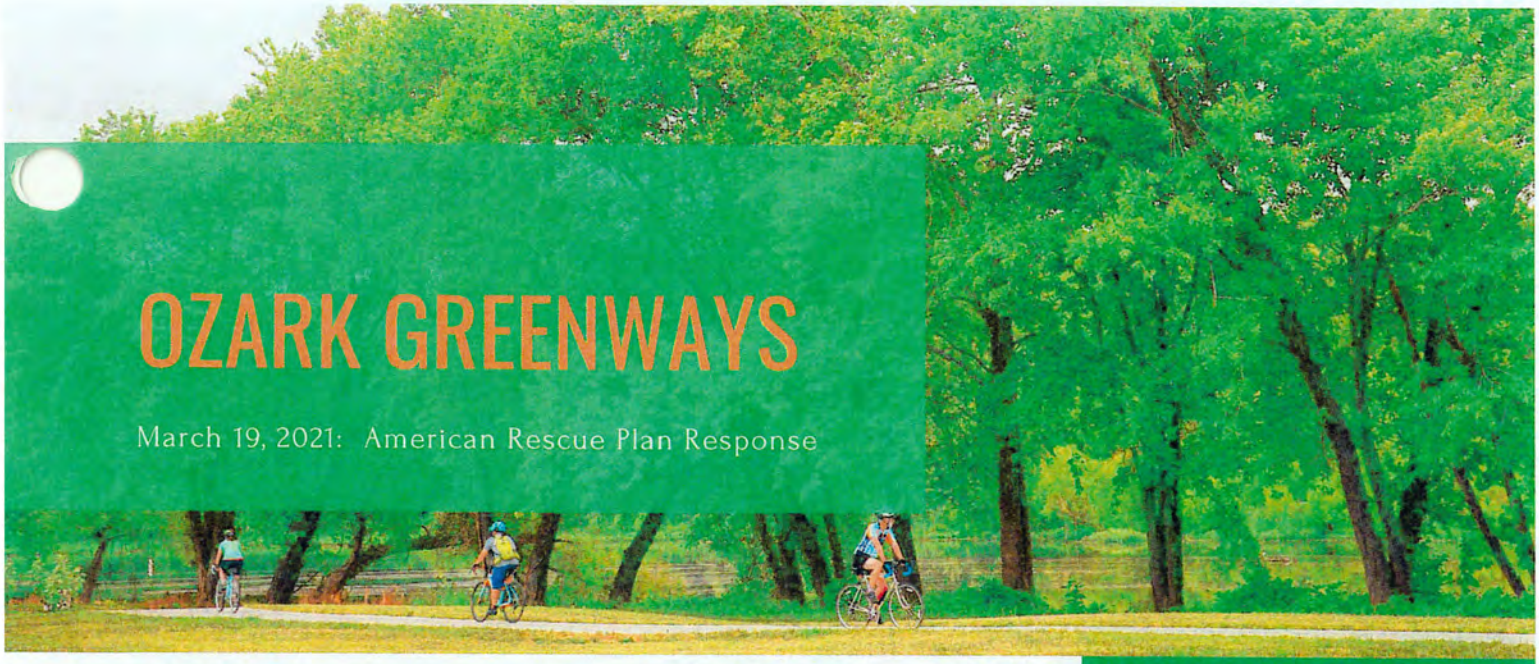
We encourage Greene County and Springfield to consider this suggestion and work together to maximize the opportunity before us. On behalf of the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, we would love the opportunity to assist in any way possible.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact Tracy Kimberlin or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Amy Austin

Amy Austin
Chair
Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau Board of Directors



OZARK GREENWAYS

March 19, 2021: American Rescue Plan Response

Presiding Commissioner Dixon and
Commissioners Russell & Maclachlan
1442 N. Robberson Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802

Mayor Ken McClure and
Members of the Springfield City Council
840 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802

Dear Elected Officials,

e American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law last week and included ronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds for states, counties, and cities. It has been estimated that Greene County will receive $57 million and Springfield will receive $39 million to be used between now and December 31, 2024 (1.)

We have outlined a strategy to respond to the COVID crisis that has eroded many aspects of our public health and our economy. Time in the outdoors has been a bright spot for many in our community. Let's build on our "bright spot" to address key dimensions of the crisis through visionary infrastructure investments that spur strong economic recovery and a healthy, equitable future.

There are also many timely public health benefits. People are using greenway trails more than ever as they strive to maintain their mental and physical health. Dramatic increases in use are being recorded across the United States; an analysis of 31 trail counters for the week of March 16–22 by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy found a nationwide trail usage increase of nearly 200% from that same week in 2019 (2.) By providing a safe space for all to exercise outdoors, trails address leading factors to COVID severity such as obesity and Vitamin D deficiency. A robust trail system is also fun and provides both immediate and long-term benefits for residents and visitors alike.

Board of Directors

Christina Angle, President
Jason Krebs, Past President
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30 YEARS OF GREENWAYS

Residents want trails. Our community needs trails. You have the power to make trails possible. Such visionary investment would get us out of this crisis in a way that transforms our community by fast-tracking identified, shovel-ready projects from the Forward SGF Comprehensive Planning Process. Completing the trail system was among the top three items that Springfieldians indicated they wanted to see from each of the public engagement sessions (3.)

Trails, and related active transportation infrastructure, will play a critical role in contributing to healthy, safe, and enjoyable communities where we can walk, bike, and move. In addition to Forward SGF, our community had the pleasure of two study tours to Northwest Arkansas in 2019 to learn from and experience their trail system. On one of those visits, Councilman Ollis asked regional leaders if they could point to what their tipping point was. The response was unanimous, the completion of the trail spine –the Razorback Greenway trail. When the gaps within the main spine were filled, the benefits began to roll-in to the tune of $137 million in economic impact (4.)

We desire to expand upon our current partnerships with the City, County, & Springfield-Greene County Parks to undertake infrastructure projects that will continue the forward momentum of our region through filling key gaps in our trail system. Our trail system is critical for sustainable growth as it will improve water quality through the continued development of greenway riparian corridors, provide safe and equitable transportation choices, and create an exceptional place that will recruit and retain a talented workforce.

Specifically, we are proposing the acceleration of 3 Regional Trail Projects (5):

1. South Creek/Wilson's Creek Greenway Gap: ~$2 Million

The closure of this remaining gap in Greene County will directly connect the South Creek Greenway trail to the Wilson's Creek Greenway trail resulting in 10+ miles of connected trails. These funds will be used for land acquisition, trail construction, and riparian corridor improvements to 20+ acres.

2. Wilson's Creek Greenway Trail Gap: ~$3 Million

The closure of this gap between Ewing Park & Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park will result in an additional 2 miles of trail in Greene County, increasing the trail connectivity mentioned above to 12+ miles. This trail alignment provides connectivity from the west side of our community to the Jordan Creek Greenway trail, which will eventually connect to Downtown. These funds will be used for land acquisition, trail construction, and riparian corridor improvements.

3. Chadwick Flyer Trail Segment: ~$5 Million

This regional trail will connect Springfield to Ozark and is one of our most popular projects. The City of Ozark currently has more than a mile of the trail built within their city limits. These funds will be used for property acquisition, trail construction from Sunshine St. to the county line, and a new trailhead.

Accelerating the above projects will increase access to our beautiful outdoors and further connect our trail and park network. More people are walking and biking, and we predict that these behavior patterns will not only remain but also continue to increase. We must work together to create infrastructure that meets these needs. The pandemic has tested our community and proven the incredible value that trails, parks, and active transportation infrastructure provide. Let's continue this conversation together, please reach out at any time to Mary Kromrey or myself.

Forward together,

Christina Angle

Christina Angle
President, Ozark Greenways

Sources:
1. www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/americ
rescue-plan-act-of-2021
2.www.railstotrails.org
3.www.forwardsgf.com/pages/documents
4.www.waltonfamilyfoundation.org
5.ozarkstransportation.org

SPRINGFIELD SPORTS COMMISSION

March 31, 2021

Presiding Commissioner Bob Dixon and Members of the Greene County Commission
Greene County Commission Office
1443 N. Robberson Ave., 10th Floor
Springfield, Missouri 65802

Mayor Ken McClure and Members of the Springfield City Council
Busch Municipal Building
840 Boonville Avenue, 4th Floor
Springfield, Missouri 65802

Greetings County Commission and City Council:

The American Rescue Plan Act recently signed into law included Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds for states, counties, and cities. Initial indications are that Missouri will receive about $3.5 billion, Greene County will receive $57 million, and Springfield will receive $39 million. We feel these resources could make a dramatic and significant impact on our sports infrastructure and enhance the economic driver that is sports tourism. Additionally, the opportunity to investigate EDA grants with the intentional use to make improvements to our sports facilities is of interest to the Sports Commission.

Because those funds can be used to help industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality that were severely affected by the pandemic, we encourage you to invest in capital projects that would aid the sports tourism industry. Encouraging Sports Tourism is a proven investment that yields positive returns both financially and in establishing a strong quality of place for community residents.

The potential use of these funds would vastly improve our sports tourism offerings, industry and ultimately our economy and the people who live here. We encourage Greene County and the City of Springfield to consider this opportunity and suggestion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Josh Scott
Chair, Springfield Sports Commission

Lance Kettering
Executive Director, Springfield Sports Commission

cc: Springfield Sports Commission Board of Directors

815 E. St. Louis Street • Springfield, MO 65806
417-881-5300 ext. 106 •fax 417-881-7201 • www.springfieldmosports.org

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
Working Together to Build Strong Communities

May 5, 2021

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
Local Community Response
Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention

INTRODUCTION

For nearly 30 years, Community Partnership of the Ozarks has convened stakeholders across the region to identify and address key challenges relating to housing affordability and homelessness. Using reliable data collection methods and integrating best practices, our community has responded to the needs of both households living in poverty and the agencies providing relief, recovery, and sustainability.

When the pandemic hit, we rallied as a community to provide quick responses to a wide range of immediate needs including basic hygiene through food and shower access; quarantine for hyper-vulnerable homeless due to chronic health conditions, and isolation units for individuals who were COVID positive. At the same time, we worked together to develop long term solutions that would stabilize households, creating lasting change through the expansion of safe, decent, affordable, and accessible housing as well as provisions for immediate access to shelter and housing services for the homeless.

Through the American Rescue Plan Act, we believe that our collective vision to create an immediately responsive homeless service system and expanded affordable housing options will become our reality. Targeted funding allocations will create 150 year-round crisis shelter beds, 100 Emergency Shelter units, and 75 new affordable housing units for low income households.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

<u>Springfield Community Land Trust:</u>
Total proposal for ARPA funding: $2,550,155
Result: 30 additional affordable rental units for low-income households

- Estimate for acquisition and rehabilitation per unit: $80,000 X 30 = $2,400,000
- 1 FTE to oversee acquisitions, rehabilitation, and housing counseling: $150,155

The Springfield Community Land Trust (SCLT) has recently determined that program sustainability can be achieved with approximately 50 rental units. They currently have 22 Center City affordable units in their rental portfolio, which includes scattered sites and multi-family units.

With designated ARPA funding, the SCLT would focus on acquiring and rehabbing 10 nuisance properties (already working with Housing Collaborative subcommittee to address and identify) per year for 3 years to add into their rental portfolio with the goal of becoming self-sustaining by 2025.

When rehabbing properties, the SCLT works to:

- improve energy efficiency through added insulation, construction, HVAC and appliances
- use Universal Design principals
- create safe, decent, affordable units for low to moderate income families
- promote neighborhood stabilization

The Gathering Tree: Eden Village 3:

Total proposal for ARPA Funding: $300,000

- Eden Village 3 Infrastructure Needs
- Result: 40 tiny home duplexes Affordable Housing Units

The Gathering Tree has acquired land to expand their Eden Village project to a third location. At this time, most of the funding have been raised totaling nearly $1 Million. The Gathering Tree is also soliciting funds from the Federal Home Loan Bank to complete the purchase of the tiny duplexes. The remainder of funding needed for infrastructure needs totals approximately $300,000 and includes sidewalks, parking lots and other easements. Eden Village houses and serves the chronically disabled homeless community.

HOMELESS CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM:

An effective crisis response system can identify and quickly connect people who are experiencing or are at risk of experiencing homelessness to housing assistance and other services. It works because it aligns a community, its programs, and services around one common goal — to make homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring.

To achieve this primary goal, key components of an effective crisis response system are identification of those experiencing homelessness, prevention of homelessness when possible, connection with housing quickly and service provisions when needed.

Emergency Shelter

Total proposed ARPA Funds: $6,000,000 (estimated)
Result: 100 Additional Emergency Shelter Beds

- The Gathering Tree: $2,000,000 for acquisition and renovation of the Redwood Inn providing 50 additional units for Emergency Shelter.
- The Kitchen, Inc: $4,000,000 for new construction on currently owned property providing 50 additional units for Emergency Shelter.

The Ozarks Alliance to End Homelessness (OAEH) has been working with local community stakeholders to expand Emergency Shelter in Springfield since last fall. This Emergency Shelter Task Force estimates that 150-200 additional units are needed to provide program-based services as a key component to our local Homeless Response System. The goal of this Task Force was to develop a model that would provide 90-day shelter following a Housing First Model. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as employment, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues.

There are two agencies that have 'shovel ready' Emergency Shelter projects: The Gathering Tree and The Kitchen, Inc.

The Gathering Tree will acquire and renovate The Redwood Motel. Currently there are 20 units available that will be enclosed to provide secure access to individual rooms with 30 additional units added on to the current structure. The Gathering Tree will work directly with the City of Springfield's Planning and Zoning Department to comply with applicable ordinances. The motel is currently under contract and could be in service by end of 2021. This project would provide shelter to individuals, couples, and would be pet friendly, addressing key gaps in Emergency Shelter services in our Continuum of Care.

The Kitchen, Inc. will expand current Emergency Shelter services by adding a newly constructed site that will provide 50 additional beds. The building site is owned by The Kitchen and building plans have been submitted and approved by the City of Springfield. The Kitchen will work directly with the City of Springfield's Planning and Zoning Department to comply with

applicable ordinances. This project would provide shelter to individuals including seniors, couples, and families with children.

Crisis Sheltering Coordination:

Total proposed ARPA Funds: $180,155

Result: Create 150 Crisis Shelter Beds

- Operational support/supplies for volunteer sites: $30,000 ($10,000 annually)
- 1 FTE Crisis Shelter Coordination: $150,155

The Springfield community has created a model for crisis cold weather sheltering during the winter months and should expand this model to 365 nights per year. The current crisis shelter model embraces a Housing First approach, offers immediate and low-barrier access to anyone facing a housing crisis, and measures shelter performance to improve results. According to our Ozarks Alliance to End Homelessness, there are approximately 200 individuals who are sleeping outside or in a place not meant for human habitation and an average of 150 individuals seek crisis sheltering during the coldest winter months. An expansion of our crisis cold weather shelter to provide 150 beds for daily service will reduce the number of individuals sleeping outside on private property and increase access to our Coordinated Entry System/One Door and other community resources aimed at health care and stabilization.

Coupled with the recommended Emergency Shelter expansion, Springfield could reach functional zero for homelessness by 2022.

Homeless Hotline

Total proposed ARPA Funds: $131,425

- Program operational support: $30,000 ($10,000 annually)
- 1 FTE Crisis Shelter Coordination: $101,425

Burrell Behavioral Health will expand their current Crisis Line to include homeless services. This will allow for 24/7 access to housing stabilization and connection with CPO's Coordinated Entry System provider, One Door. The proposed project will provide funding for transportation to shelter, hotel stays when necessary and supplies to meet emergency needs. Burrell believes that current staffing could support the Homeless Hotline however, the need for additional staff is anticipated in year two and three.

At this time, the One Door program serves our community during regular business hours. Through our work with the Springfield Police Department and Burrell Behavioral Health, we

know that there is a large gap in serving the needs of individuals in crisis and homeless overnight and on weekends. The establishment of a Homeless Hotline will provide much needed support to law enforcement officers, deter individuals from hospitals and jails and connect them to the Coordinated Entry System for housing stabilization.

Community Based Case Management:

Total proposed ARPA Funds: $375,310

- Program operational support: $75,000 ($25,000 annually)
- 2 FTE Community Based Case Managers: $300,310

Using the Critical Time Intervention model, two Community Based Case Managers will provide resource navigation and connection to housing, mental health, and healthcare. Critical Time Intervention is a time-limited evidence-based practice that mobilizes support for vulnerable individuals during periods of transition. The CTI model facilitates housing stability, community integration, and continuity of care, and has been successful in supporting the return to housing for people with serious mental illness, people experiencing homelessness, veterans, and many other groups.

Quigley, Collin

m: Gage, Jason
nt: Monday, May 17, 2021 11:55 AM
To: Quigley, Collin; Jones, Maurice; Holtmann, David
Subject: FW: Potential Project for ARPA
Attachments: ARPA info for City.pdf

Fyi.

Jason A. Gage, ICMA-CM
City Manager

Busch Municipal Building
840 Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802
Phone: (417) 864-1006
Fax: (417) 864-1912
TTY: 1 (800) 877-8339
www.springfieldmo.gov

From: (adm) Regina Cooper <reginac@thelibrary.org>
nt: Monday, May 17, 2021 10:17 AM
, Gage, Jason <jgage@springfieldmo.gov>
Subject: Potential Project for ARPA

CAUTION This email originated from outside the organization. Do not open attachments or click links from sources you do not know and trust.

Jason,

Councilman Matt Simpson suggested to me that I send you information regarding a project that could potentially be eligible for ARPA funds that the City receives from the federal government. I have attached a summary of the project. Thank you.

Regina Greer Cooper, Executive Director
Springfield-Greene County Library District
4653 South Campbell Avenue
Springfield, MO 65810
417-883-5366 x2

reginac@thelibrary.org

Construction and services concentrated at the Library Center, 4653 S Campbell Avenue. The Library Center is our busiest and largest location. All aspects emphasize minimizing contact between individuals while still offering good service or creating space to accommodate needs created or highlighted during Covid 19.

Patron self service has been very important during the past year. Adding up to date, full functioning self check units will enable patrons to check out their materials with minimal contact with staff if that is their preference.

Currently items reserved for patrons are held behind the desk. Moving those so they can be accessed directly by patrons will also minimize contact greatly.

Staff in our circulation department typically handle over 70,000 items per month at the Library Center. Installation of an automated materials handling (AMH) system will significantly reduce the amount of time staff spend handling those materials. Nearly all the items will be automatically checked in and sorted to be reshelved.

The Library Center's largest meeting room is really only comfortable for smaller groups. A true auditorium will enable the Library to offer much larger events and to accommodate community events such as our recent cooperative with the Springfield Greene County Health Department for a Covid 19 immunization event. The number of participants for the event was really only limited by our lack of space for those wanting the vaccine.

Item	Quantity	Cost per unit	Total
Self checkout units	6	$11,000.00	$66,000.00
Self pickup shelves	16	$470	$7520.00
End panels	8	$500	$4000.00
Automated materials handling unit	1	$300,000	$300,000
Auditorium	1	$275 per sq ft / 5000 sq ft	$1,375,000.00
Professional services	1	$200,000.00	$200,000.00
Grand Total			$1,952,520.00

Patron self checkout units
Quantity 6
Cost per unit (including software) $11,000

Patron self pickup shelves
Quantity 16
Cost per unit $470

Wooden end panels for shelves
Quantity 8
Cost per unit $500

Automated Materials Handling unit
Quantity 1
Cost per unit $300.000

Auditorium 5000 square feet
Quantity 1
Cost per unit $275 sq ft

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

Southern Missouri Professional Fire Fighters

IAFF Local 152

Springfield Republic Ozark Logan-Rogersville Nixa Battlefield Fair Grove Aurora Branson Strafford

Southern Missouri Professional Fire Fighters
1200 E. Woodhurst, Suite K400
Springfield, MO 65804

May 21, 2021

Re: America Rescue Plan Act funding request

Mayor McClure and Mr. Gage,

The City of Springfield will soon be discussing the allocation of the approximately 40 million dollars in funding that was accepted as part of the America Rescue Plan Act. As you are aware, these funds are intended to provide vital fiscal relief for those effected by the Covid-19 pandemic. While there are many provisions contained within this legislation, one of its primary purposes is "to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the State, territory, or Tribal government that are performing such essential work." Section 602 (c)(1)(B).

As the pandemic worsened and the city sheltered its citizens in place to protect their health, Fire Fighters were still on the frontline. When others were figuring out new ways to operate from the safety of their home and establish a new normal, we were asked to enter those homes to care for the citizens as they were struck with the virus. Fires continued to burn, medical emergencies continued to occur, and our services were still needed.

There is no work from home option in our profession. Each day the men and women of Local 152 dutifully protected the citizens of Springfield. This dedication has come at a great cost. In spite of the extraordinary precautions taken to try and protect ourselves while serving, many of our members contracted Covid through the course of their employment. These members then unknowingly took the virus home with them, infecting their wives, husbands, parents, children and grandchildren.

Aside from the financial burden associated with the illness, the Covid pandemic has created an incalculable hardship to our members mental health. The IAFF Peer Support program, which is designed to help our members seek assistance in a safe and confidential manner, has seen a **300%** increase in contacts during the past 14 months. The stress of exposing their families to this virus is an overriding factor for these increased requests and referrals to mental health professionals.

In spite of these risks our members have once again stepped up to protect the City of Springfield. On May 7th members of IAFF Local 152, in conjunction with Springfield Fire Department and Greene County Health hosted a vaccine clinic at Fire Station 8. The clinic vaccinated 111 citizens in one day and has led to the scheduling of five additional events.

Our members have endured all of these hardships and sacrifices without additional compensation. In fact, with the uncertainty of the City budget in July of 2020, many of our members endured a financial loss with the delay in merit funding they have come to depend upon. While not alone in this sacrifice, it did have a negative and compounding effect on the morale of our membership.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

Southern Missouri Professional Fire Fighters

IAFF Local 152

Springfield Republic Ozark Logan-Rogersville Nixa Battlefield Fair Grove Aurora Branson Strafford

The premium pay defined within the ARPA funding is designed to offset these hardships by compensating our Fire Fighters for the heightened risk and mental stress that has been endured during the pandemic. These funds must be additional to regular wages and not a substitute for normal wage earnings.

The ARPA recognizes this by defining *premium pay to mean an amount up to $13 per hour in addition to wages or remuneration the worker otherwise receives and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $25,000 per eligible worker.*

We are asking that the City and members of Council consider allocating a portion of these funds as "premium pay" to the members of IAFF Local 152. While there has been some question in the past of the legalities of "back pay" or "bonuses" for employees of the City, that is not an issue that we face with the use of this funding. The definition of **premium pay** contained within the legislation clarifies that *premium pay may be provided* ***retrospectively*** *for work performed at any time since the start of the COVID– 19 public health emergency, where those workers have yet to be compensated adequately for work previously performed.(31CFR Part 35)*

We respectfully request that the each of dedicated, frontline workers of IAFF Local 152 be paid the maximum amount of 25,000 dollars "premium pay" allowed under the ARPA for our work during this pandemic. This would include the rank of Firefighter, Equipment Operator, Rescue Specialist, Lieutenant, Captain and Fire Marshal. We believe this to be reasonable compensation for the immeasurable risk to our members mental and physical health as they protected the citizens of this great City during such dangerous and unprecedented times. While we cannot speak for our brothers and sisters in the Springfield Police Department, we would hope that their effort and sacrifice would be recognized as well.

Allocating these funds in the form of premium pay has numerous benefits for the City. Currently employers are struggling to recruit and retain talent and the City of Springfield is no different. Using these funds to provide renumeration will show potential employees the support our community shows its first responders. It will also aid in supporting the budget priorities of employee recruitment, retention and dedication to public safety. The fact that these dollars would most certainly be spent in Springfield, supporting our sales tax base and local businesses only adds to the benefit of using the funds in this manner.

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Chad Davis, President

Devin Keeney, Executive Vice President

Brent Cox, Secretary Treasurer

Garett Olson, Political Director

1200 E Woodhurst Suite K400; Springfield, MO 65804 **Office (417) 864-5804**

www.iaff152.com

Together We Achieve the Extraordinary

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

Southern Missouri Professional Fire Fighters

IAFF Local 152

Springfield Republic Ozark Logan-Rogersville Nixa Battlefield Fair Grove Aurora Branson Strafford

1200 E Woodhurst Suite K400; Springfield, MO 65804 **Office (417) 864-5804**

www.iaff152.com

Together We Achieve the Extraordinary

Springfield Police Officers Association
P.O. Box 6289
Springfield, MO 65801-6289

May 24, 2021

Re: America Rescue Plan Act: Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

The Springfield City Council will soon discuss the distribution of the $40,276,290 dollars that it is allocated as result of the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). These funds are intended to provide relief for the hardships of the Covid-19 pandemic. One of the Act's key purposes is to "to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the State, territory, or Tribal government that are performing such essential work. . .." Section 602 (c) (1)(B).

Police officers have been one of the few groups of City employees that have continually faced these elevated risks. During the pandemic, many City employees were able to work from home or otherwise mitigate contact with others. The Springfield Police Officers were unable to do so. We were steadfast as first responders to respond to every criminal action and non-criminal event including: general disturbance/ civil concerns, mental health, homeless concerns, ordinance violations, drug overdoses, all types of emergency medical assistance and any other events requiring a response from 911 calls and all other needs. While calls for service diminished in other City departments, they increased for police. As a result, many officers contracted Covid-19 along with their family members. Even though we knew these infections would continue to occur, we persevered to serve the citizens of Springfield thereby putting ourselves and our families in jeopardy. Our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of the citizens of Springfield remained our top priority. We continued to perform our jobs 24/7 during a City, State and Federal declared Emergency without additional pay.

The difficulty of working during the pandemic has been compounded by the increasing crime rate and difficulty in recruiting and retaining officers. As discussed at Council meetings, the Springfield Police Department is understaffed, and officers are underpaid for the dangerous work they perform (the lowest police wages for Missouri cities of 50,000 or more). Low pay and exposure to health risks by constantly interacting with the public make police officers precisely the kind of essential workers premium pay was designed to help. Unlike police in a number of other places, Springfield police did not receive any enhanced pay during the pandemic. The ARPA funds are clearly intended to make up for this situation:

"Furthermore, because premium pay is intended to compensate essential workers for heightened risk due to COVID–19, it must be entirely additive to a worker's regular rate of wages and other remuneration and may not be used to reduce or substitute for a worker's normal earnings. The definition of premium pay also clarifies that premium pay may be provided retrospectively for work performed at any time since the start of the COVID– 19 public health emergency, where those workers have yet to be compensated adequately for work previously performed." 31CFR Part 35

We respectfully request the maximum amount of 'premium pay' for all officers, corporals, and sergeants employed by the Springfield Police Department. We believe a payment of premium pay to each police officer in the amount of $10,000 dollars paid by July 1st 2021, July 1, 2022 and $5,000 dollars paid before July 1st 2023 is appropriate and properly compensates Springfield Police Officers for their heroic actions during this unprecedented time.

"The ARPA recognizes this by defining premium pay to mean an amount up to $13 per hour in addition to wages or remuneration the worker otherwise receives and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $25,000 per eligible worker.

Thank you for your consideration of our efforts to keep Springfield safe and acknowledgement of the heroic work performed during the Emergency Declaration. It is time to back up those words with renumeration.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Zinke

Andrew Zinke, President

Justin Hollingsworth

Justin Hollingsworth, Vice President

Matthew Shackelford

Matthew Shackelford, Secretary

Betsy Shipley

Betsy Shipley, Treasurer

attached: City, State, and Federal Declarations of Emergency

From: Katrena Wolfram <kwolfram@hasproperties.org>
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 3:48 PM
To: Gage, Jason <jgage@springfieldmo.gov>
Subject: American Rescue Plan

CAUTION This email originated from outside the organization. Do not open attachments or click links from sources you do not know and trust.

Hi Jason,

The Housing Authority of Springfield would like to apply for funds from the American Rescue Plan for our homeless veteran's place on Kingsley Street we wish to build.

We purchased the land behind Price Cutter at Kansas and Kingsley Street close to the Veteran's Clinic on Republic Road for this purpose. John Oke-Thomas is our Architect and has the rendering of the proposed Freedom Ridge Homes building. We currently operate 76 VASH (VA Supportive Housing) Vouchers in Springfield for homeless veterans. Freedom Ridge Homes would house 28 – 32 units for our most vulnerable population.

If you would like to meet with John and I about our proposal, please reach out to either John (861-0760) or myself. If there is an application process for these funds or I need to contact someone other than yourself, please let me know.

Thanks!

Katrena

MOBILE: 417-861-5539
EMAIL: kwolfram@hasproperties.org
WEB: hasproperties.net
ADDRESS: 421 W. Madison
Springfield, MO 65806

Katrena M. Wolfram, RAD/PBV
Executive Director/CEO
Housing Authority of
Springfield, Missouri
President Breckenridge
Development, Inc.

Ozark Empire Fairgrounds

New Arena Project

Greene County Agricultural and Mechanical Society d/b/a Ozark Empire Fairgrounds was established in 1937. The organization hosts over 140 events a year on 72 acres owned by the City of Springfield and operated by the Society pursuant to the provisions of a long term Lease. The Ozark Empire Fair has been a part of Springfield and southwest Missouri since the inception of the organization and has attendance of approximately 160,000 people per year. With the other events, there were over 560,000 people who came to the Fairgrounds in 2019. A 2016 Economic Impact Study showed the results of the events held at the Fairgrounds generated in excess of $29,500,000.00. The events have grown since that time and the estimate currently approaches $40,000,000.00. Exhibitors and visitors come from several states and add to our area tourism footprint.

The scope of the proposed project is to build a multipurpose indoor arena. The 100,000 square foot upper level will be used for livestock shows, horse shows, barrel racing, tractor pulls, dog shows, archery, volleyball, and trade shows. The grounds currently have ample parking to support the operations of the new facility. The organization has maintained profitability every year since 2012. An open-air event center was completed in 2020 and will support the type of events to be hosted in the new arena. This was constructed from private funding.

The 20,000 square foot lower level will be used nine months of the year for Hillcrest High School as an agricultural classroom for their FFA curriculum. They are currently on site working with the Water Shed Committee of the Ozarks, which is in the process of building a greenhouse on site at the Fairgrounds to raise native grasses as part of Hillcrest High School's agricultural curriculum. The other three months of the year the facility will be used for agricultural camps and for the Fair's annual "AgVenture" program.

The cost of the project is **$15,000,000.00**. The plans were first presented to City Council in February 2020 at a luncheon held at the Fairgrounds. This was made part of the Master Plan provided to the City.

Most significantly, during the 2021 legislative session the organization was able to secure **$5,000,000.00** for planning, design, and construction of this arena. This was pursuant to the provisions of House Bill 19, Section 19.405. Those funds are being administered through the Governor's Office of Administration and these are to be matching funds. In addition, the organization has engaged in preliminary conversations with the County Commission. The request to the City is for an additional **$5,000,000.00** toward the cost of this project. The economic impact returned by this project will return to the City for years to come.

Plans are finalized and construction can begin as soon as funding is secured. This is an opportunity for the City, County, and the organization that needs to occur now to take advantage of this legislative work.