



City of Racine, Wisconsin
AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM

AGENDA DATE:

February 27, 2023 –F & P
March 7, 2023-Common Council

SUBJECT: Communication sponsored by Mayor Mason, requesting a reallocation of City ARPA funds to fund the Grow Racine Non-Profit Mini Grant program.

PREPARED BY: Kathleen Fischer Finance Director

REVIEWED BY: Paul Vornholt-City Administrator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In early 2023 the City released a request for grant proposal opportunity for a GROW Racine Mini Grant Program: *Meeting Unmet Community Needs*. The applications were requested from eligible local nonprofit organizations. Grants of \$10,000-\$25,000 were available. We were seeking innovative and creative proposals that can be implemented quickly and that address a clearly described unmet community need.

We had a tremendous response to our grant opportunity and received 70 applications that were reviewed and scored by a committee of nine individuals from different City departments. The CDBG Advisory Committee will be presented with the recommended applicants, but before the funds can be awarded, an ARPA budget reallocation is required.

We anticipate that \$705,000 of City ARPA funds will be needed to fund the grants themselves as well as some technical support for some of the agencies to be provided by United Way. The funds will be reallocated from the following categories: Compliance, Workforce, and Grant Manager to fund the Mini Grant Program. Each one of these categories has funding available for various reasons.

1. Compliance: We anticipated outsourcing much of the compliance work associated with the ARPA funds but found that it is more efficient to keep it in house with current staff therefore these funds are available.
2. Workforce: While we have several workforce programs under way, a few of the grants to be funded fit into the workforce category so we are requesting a reallocation from this category
3. Grant Manager: We anticipated a significant cost associated with a grant manager, however, we have found an amazing grant writer that we contract with on an as needed basis that is significantly less expensive than we had anticipated, and therefore funds are available.

FISCAL NOTE:

Reallocate \$705,000 from other City ARPA categories to the Mini Grant program. The reallocation consists of budget reduction of \$250,000 from the compliance category, a \$155,000 reduction from the workforce category, and a \$300,000 reduction from the grant manager category. Funds are available in each of these categories to reallocate.