



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: April 26, 2022

In Control: Economic and Workforce Development Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Department of Human Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Melody Woosley

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for Youth.

SUMMARY:

This item provides background on current City of San Antonio Youth Services investments and requests Economic and Workforce Development (EWDC) feedback on priorities for ARPA investments in youth programs and initiatives.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On March 11, 2021, Congress signed into law ARPA which included resources to support local government's response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of San Antonio was awarded \$326.9 million in State and local Fiscal Recovery Funds. As part of the FY 2022 Budget process, City Council approved \$97.50 million to support the city budget and address community needs. On November 18, 2021, Council approved an additional \$30.0 million for utility assistance. The remaining \$199.4 million remained unallocated and was intended to be awarded

following a community engagement process that began in the fall of 2021.

On October 20, 2021, City Council was briefed and presented with a potential spending framework, strategic guiding principles, and a community input plan for the use of the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. In November 2021, the City held community meetings and launched a survey to obtain feedback on the use of the ARPA Funds. Additional meetings were held in December 9, 2021 and January 26, 2022 to obtain further policy direction from the City Council and to discuss community input. Finally, on February 3rd, City Council approved a spending framework. This Spending framework supports the continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic, addresses community priorities, and allocates funds for City employee compensation/benefits/retention.

Included in the spending framework are seven categories that will be further discussed at three Council Committees to develop plans and expected outcomes for each of the categories. The table below reflects these categories.

City Council Committee	Spending Category	Amount (In Millions)
Economic and Workforce Development	Small Business	30.9
	Youth	10.0
	Digital Inclusion/Literacy	6.9
Community Health, Environment and Culture	Arts	\$5.0
	Seniors	5.0
	Non-Profit Social Services	4.0
Public Safety	Mental Health	26.0

The Department of Human Services will provide a briefing to the Economic and Workforce Development Committee on youth programs currently funded by the City of San Antonio.

ISSUE:

The Economic and Workforce Development Committee will begin discussions to develop a plan for the allocation of the \$10 million allocated to Youth. The Economic and Workforce Development Committee will provide policy direction to City staff to develop a plan that:

1. Identifies a COVID-19 impact
2. Includes programs/ strategies that will benefit community members affected by the impact identified in Step 1
3. Defines desired equitable outcomes with metrics to measure those outcomes
4. Provides a not-to-exceed, 4-year implementation plan

FISCAL IMPACT:

The ARPA – Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Spending Framework approved by City Council on February 3rd allocated \$10 million to Youth.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.