



Build C3 Update

10/14/2024

Presentation Overview

- Detail how the program was created.
- Provide a status update for each category within the program.
- Discuss next steps.

Background

- During a Study Session in February 2024, Council allocated the remainder of the City's American Rescue Plan Act funding towards various initiatives, primarily targeting improvements in the Core City.
- Roughly \$7.5 million was earmarked for a variety of topics, including housing, the environment, food equity, infrastructure improvements, micro-transit, workforce development, community well-being, and emergency rental/mortgage assistance.
- Council unanimously approved a budget amendment on second reading in April 2024, allocating the \$7.5 million for this program, labeled as Build C3. All funds for this program must be expended by the end of 2026.

Housing and Livability Improvements

- \$2.5 million was allocated for this category.
- \$250,000 will go towards a Code Enforcement Assistance Program, helping residents remedy various Code Enforcement violations, such as the removal of inoperable vehicles.
- \$100,000 has been budgeted for a Housing Needs Assessment which will fulfill statutory requirements prescribed in SB 24-174 and will provide the City a blueprint of future housing needs, a vendor has been selected.
- The City is aiming to partner with the non-profit community to spend the remainder of the money allocated for this subject to improve housing and livability conditions.

Environment

- \$500,000 was allocated for this category.
- \$100,000 has been budgeted to determine sites and develop designs for two community gardens; a vendor has been selected.
- \$300,000 has been budgeted for the construction and implementation of the two community gardens, once designed.
- Staff will consult EPAC to determine best uses for the remaining \$100,000 for this topic.

Food Equity

- \$400,000 was allocated for this category.
- \$300,000 has been dedicated to a food equity grant program that will provide funding for various projects that increase access to healthy and affordable food or enhance education and awareness around food inequity.
- The application closed on October 11th; staff will begin evaluating proposals this week.

Infrastructure Improvements

- \$500,000 was allocated for this category.
- Staff has listed an RFP for a Telecommunications Strategic Infrastructure Plan that will identify areas within the City that are underserved and will provide a roadmap for the future buildout of telecommunication services. The cost for this plan is currently unknown.
- The remainder of this money will supplement the Section 108 loan for sidewalk improvements within the Core City, and potentially include the installation of speed tables.

Micro-Transit

- \$500,000 was allocated for this category.
- Subsequent to the \$500,000 allocation, DRCOG began a micro-transit study for the region that the City is participating in. Results of that study, when completed, should guide City implementation of micro-transit.

Workforce Development

- \$500,000 was allocated for this category.
- Staff is still determining the best use of money for this item, and no funds have been expended yet.
- Staff is exploring partnership opportunities for apprenticeship programs, GED grant programs, and additional higher education funding for residents.

Community Well-Being

- \$1,533,025 was allocated for this category.
 - This money funded the hiring of a variety of positions, including an Education Navigator, Food Navigator, Housing Navigator, and an Administrative Assistant.
 - The Education Navigator position was repurposed to a Homeless Navigator position to meet existing needs.
 - All of these positions have been filled.
 - Staff is recommending the remaining money for this topic be reallocated for various CWB initiatives and is discussed in a later slide.
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Emergency Shelter Operations

- \$1,491,000 was allocated for this category.
- \$1,291,000 was designated for emergency backup generators at the Eagle Pointe and Bison Ridge Recreation Centers. An RFP has since closed, and staff is in the process of selecting a vendor for this project.
- \$200,000 was designated for the purchase of additional emergency shelter supplies – staff has since purchased a variety of items to bolster shelter operations at each recreation center.

Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance

- \$1,00,000 was allocated for this category.
- An RFP was published for the administration of this program, and a vendor will be selected within the coming weeks.
- Program design and eligibility will be based on best practices and lessons learned from the initial ERAP program.
- These funds will be eligible for residents in Q4, and application assistance will be available on-site.

HUD Section 108 Loan

- Staff is completing an application to the HUD Section 108 Loan Program to supplement Build C3 efforts.
- Since this money borrows future CDBG dollars, this money is required to be spent within neighborhoods that are eligible for CDGB funding.
- The additional \$1.9 million in funding from the Section 108 Loan will go towards sidewalk improvements within the Core City.

Rebranding

- Program will be rebranded from "Build C3" to "ACT: Advancing Commerce City Together"
- This name reflects the program's intent toward forward movement for the community, actively pursuing action and improvement, and working together with residents.

Proposed Funding Changes

Program:	Original Budget:	Revised Budget:
Housing and Livability	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
Environment	\$500,000	\$500,000
Food Equity	\$400,000	\$400,000
Micro-Transit	\$500,000	\$0
Workforce Development	\$500,000	\$500,000
Community Well-Being	\$1,533,025	\$1,533,025
Rental/Mortgage Assistance	\$1,000,000	\$1,600,000
Infrastructure	\$500,000	\$500,000
Grant Writing*	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Emergency Shelter Supplies*	\$200,000	\$100,000
Emergency Shelter Generators*	\$1,291,000	\$1,291,000
Total:	\$9,924,025	\$9,924,025

* Denotes previously allocated ARPA money.

Proposed Funding Changes

- Reduce Micro-Transit budget to \$0 due to DRCOG's micro-transit study that will not be completed in time to meet the 12/31/2026 deadline to spend the City's remaining ARPA funds.
- Reallocate the remaining funds in the Community Well-Being budget towards the following initiatives:
 - Purchase vehicle for outreach - \$45,000
 - Purchase van for transport of clients - \$150,000
 - Add Education Navigator - \$230,000
 - Balance for supplies and emergency housing assistance for seniors, families, and unhoused – approximately \$300,000

Proposed Funding Changes

- Reduce Shelter Supplies budget by \$100,000 as all necessary supplies will cost less than initially anticipated.
- Add an additional \$600,000 to the Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program budget.
- Utilize any budget balance after an activity has been completed and add additional funding to an approved activity.
- If Council is supportive of these changes, a budget amendment will be brought back to Council at a future date.



Discussion