

Pedraza, Arlene

From: Jan Arnold <Jan.Arnold@pdop.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 3:22 PM
To: ARPAComments
Cc: Shelley, Lisa; Jan Arnold
Subject: Park District of Oak Park - ARPA Fund Request

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To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this email as an official request from the Park District of Oak Park for the Village of Oak Park to consider allocating \$2M of the ARPA funds to the Park District of Oak Park.

Per my conversation on Monday with Lisa Shelley, I looked at GFOA's guide and it took me to the <http://treasury.gov> site (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds>) which listed five (5) eligible spending categories for governments, one of which being: ***Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector***

The Park District thinks it is important to note that the public sector is specifically listed and that it is separate from the lost revenue calculation, which is another one of the other five eligible categories.

Below the list the treasury also states, "within these overall categories, recipients have broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities." And even though a lost revenue calculation would not be required for this, we believe it's pretty easy to show how the Park District of Oak Park had severe economic impacts due to the pandemic. The District generated approximately \$6M fewer dollars in 2020 than in 2019 due to closures of facilities and reduced size of groups in our programs all caused by Covid-19.

Based on the District's review of the ARPA language, it appears that the transfer of funding to another unit of government is an allowed use of funds (hence the addressing economic impacts in the public sector).

The Park District of Oak Park respectfully requests \$2M to help support our agency's efforts to continue to support program access and expanded facilities that address the needs of our community's youth, teen, adult and senior populations. The amount of \$2M is equal to the amount of funding that the Park District of Oak Park was not able to add to our CIP in 2020 due to the huge drop in revenue from the pandemic. The funds would be requested for distribution in calendar year 2022.

Please let me know if there is any additional information needed to assist in the Village's evaluation process.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Best,

Jan

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