

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**ITEM: 3.14**  
(ID # 22277)

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, June 27, 2023

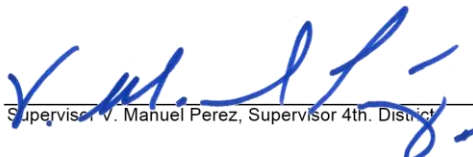
**FROM :** BOS DISTRICT 4:

**SUBJECT:** BOS DISTRICT 4: Fourth District Use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Community Improvement Designation (CID) Funds for the College of the Desert, Spay Neuter Imperative Project, Voices for Children. [\$25,000 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 100%] (4/5 vote required)

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Approve the use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Community Improvement Designation funds for:
  1. College of the Desert - \$10,000  
43500 Monterey Avenue  
Palm Desert, CA 92260
  2. Spay Neuter Imperative Project - \$5,000  
P.O. Box 1066  
Pebble Beach, CA 93953
  3. Voices for Children - \$10,000  
2851 Meadow Lark Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123

**ACTION:4/5 Vote Required**

  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, Supervisor 4th. District 6/21/2023

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$ 25,000	\$ 0	\$ 25,000	\$ 0
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$ 25,000	\$ 0	\$ 25,000	\$ 0
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 100%</b>				<b>Budget Adjustment: No</b>
				<b>For Fiscal Year: 22/23</b>

**BACKGROUND: BACKGROUND:**

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, also called the COVID-19 Stimulus Package or the American Rescue Plan (ARP), is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the 117<sup>th</sup> United States Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden on March 11, 2021, to accelerate the United States' recovery from the economic and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Rescue Plan includes \$350 billion for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. These funds known as the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide a substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide of the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

Congress provided State, local, and Tribal governments with significant resources to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its economic impacts through four categories of eligible uses.:

- a) To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.
- b) To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers;
- c) For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency; and
- d) To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Local non-profit organizations play a critical role in responding to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts, by supporting the public health efforts, delivering essential social services, and supporting individuals and families in stabilizing economically. As such, it is essential that these organizations receive additional financial support to increase services and capacity during the pandemic. It is also important that this funding be distributed geographically throughout the County so that impacted groups, households, and individuals have access to this financial support.

On August 24, 2021, the Board of Supervisors authorized the allocation of \$1,000,000 in Federal funding under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) to the Community Improvement Designation Fund (CID) program to support COVID-19 response efforts and economic recovery within Riverside County. The Board further authorized that the allocation is distributed to each supervisorial district in the amount of \$200,000, to be awarded to local eligible non-profits through the established ARPA CID application and award process. The

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Community Improvement Designation Fund, known as the CID program, was established by the Board of Supervisors under the provisions of Government Code §26227 which authorizes the Board of Supervisors to appropriate and expend general fund monies to support programs that serve a public purpose by meeting the social needs of the population of the county. The CID program, as an existing funding vehicle, provides a mechanism to quickly deploy funding to non-profits on the front lines of the pandemic response efforts.

To ensure compliance with the ARPA funding interim guidelines, County staff created an ARPA - CID supplemental application for eligible non-profit organizations. The application provides adequate detail pertaining to the funding program objectives, guidelines, eligibility criteria and compliance requirements for audit purposes. Furthermore, staff prepared an ARPA non-profits administration process which provides details related to the applications eligibility determination and processing based on eligibility recommendations to be provided by the Executive Office to Board staff. As part of the process, Board staff will be submitting recommendations for awards monthly, as applications are submitted, and eligibility is determined.

On October 13, 2021, County staff held an ARPA non-profits funding workshop to walk eligible organizations through the ARPA CID application(s) process, funding objectives and eligibility criteria according to the U.S. Treasury interim funding guidelines.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Community Improvement Designation funds will be given to the following organizations:

1. College of the Desert Foundation maintains a Student Emergency Fund to help students who are food insecure, need assistance with housing or other personal expenses. Since March 2020, when the campus was forced to close due to the pandemic, the need for this type of assistance has far exceeded past requests. In the past two years, COD Foundation has distributed more than \$450,000 to more than 400 students and our funds are nearly depleted. This grant will help ensure we can continue to help our students with the greatest need. ARPA/CID funds will be used to support emergency student needs and mitigate barriers that could impact their ability to achieve their educational goals.
2. Spay Neuter Imperative Project California (SNIP) Bus Mobile Spay and Neuter was created on a grassroots level to help meet the ongoing lack of affordable spay/neuter services to communities in need throughout the Coachella Valley. During the pandemic, many lost day-labor jobs or other for-hire projects that were discontinued. Unwanted litters of kittens and puppies also present financial hardship for low-income families, who were already having trouble making ends meet pre-pandemic. SNIP assisted the most disadvantage members of the community, with low-cost spay/neuter clinics. ARPA-CID funds will support SNIP covering the cost of these mobile clinics.
3. Voices for Children (VFC) transforms the lives of abused, abandoned, or neglected children by providing them with trained, volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs). COVID-19 has exacerbated the challenges that children in foster care face, and the long-term effects of the pandemic are still to be determined. The ARPA-CID

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funds would cover salary expenses of the program team members who recruit, train, and supervise CASA volunteers as they provide critical advocacy to children in foster care.