



Economic Stabilization Task Force

Appointed by the City & Borough of Juneau's Mayor

Email: Economic-Stabilization@juneau.org

Mail: 155 S Seward Street, Juneau, AK 99801

www.beta.juneau.org/assembly/economic-stabilization

Date: September 23, 2020

From: Max Mertz and Linda Thomas, Co-Chairs

To: Economic Stabilization Task Force

Re: Exploration of Opportunities for Remaining CARES Funding

As you have heard, the Assembly made the decision on September 14 to explore opportunities to spend the remaining CARES funding prior to the December 31 deadline. There are five programs in development that will be on our agenda for discussion. Our meeting may go longer than normal - we are anticipating adjournment at 5:30pm, so hopefully, you can plan your schedule accordingly. The programs are summarized briefly here. Our packet should be available later today that will have more information on each. Linda and I wanted to get you information as early as we have it so you can begin considering these items:

Emergency Appropriation Resolution 2910. An Emergency Appropriation Resolution Appropriating up to \$175,000 to the Manager for a Grant to the Greater Juneau Chamber of Commerce to Lease and Implement a COVID-19 Detection Platform; Funding Provided by the CARES ACT Special Revenue Fund.

This program is in development by a group that desires proactive Covid safety measures for their workforce and in the service industry. This is an IT based platform with systematic testing protocols. While it is intended to be used to benefit those that participate initially, the community will benefit in the use of this as a testing platform for a potential broader base use, such as within larger groups of individuals such as universities, agencies and other companies. You will have more information in your packets on this. Distribution of the funding will be through the Juneau Chamber of Commerce.

Emergency Appropriation Resolution 2909. An Emergency Appropriation Resolution Appropriating up to \$1,000,000 to the Manager for a COVID-19 Heating Fuel and Electricity Assistance Grant Program; Funding Provided by the CARES ACT Special Revenue Fund.

This program will be available to households in Juneau to assist them with paying their electrical or fuel bills. Grants will be up to \$500 to households at or below income targets who self-attest to financial impact from COVID.

Appointed Task Force Members

Max Mertz, Co-Chair • Linda Thomas, Co-Chair • Susan Bell • Theresa Belton • Bruce Botelho

Eric Forst • Ken Koelsch • Lauren MacVay • Laura Martinson • Terra Peters

Ordinance 2020-09(O). An Ordinance Appropriating up to \$500,000 to the Manager for Post-Secondary Education Assistance Grants Related to COVID-19; Funding Provided by the CARES ACT Special Revenue Fund.

This will provide for grants of up to \$2,000 to individuals on a cost-reimbursement basis to defray costs of returning to school. The program will be administered through a local non-profit.

Ordinance 2020-09(P). An Ordinance Appropriating up to \$1,300,000 to the Manager for Hospitality Industry Assistance Grants Related to COVID-19; Funding Provided by the CARES ACT Special Revenue Fund.

This is a program in development by the local CHARR representatives to provide grants to restaurants and their employees impacted by recent COVID shutdowns. The grants will be target to specific licensees in specific amounts.

Emergency Appropriation Resolution 2911. An Emergency Appropriation Resolution Appropriating up to \$2,000,000 to the Manager for Mortgage and Rental Assistance Grants Related to COVID-19; Funding Provided by the CARES ACT Special Revenue Fund.

This program will provide grants to households in Juneau meeting certain income targets to make mortgage and rent payments directly to landlords. This program is much more flexible than the one approved by the Assembly last spring and is anticipated to have much greater demand. The program is modeled on the successful program implemented in Ketchikan.

Additional Items

We will also discuss the pending ordinance with the Assembly for \$2,000,000 to fund the oversubscription of the Business Sustainability Grants and a letter from United Human Services about their proposed Valley Campus and the economic impact it will have.