

Report to Assembly, July 26, 2022
Responses to Follow-Up Questions from Anchorage Assembly Members
at the July 22, 2022 Worksession

Organization: Cook Inlet Housing Authority

Project Title: COMBINED Ch'bala Corners, Coronado Park & Brewster's

Request: \$6,250,000, currently on the priority list for \$4,500,000

Updated Information:

From: Tyler Robinson <TRobinson@cookinlethousing.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 4:16 PM

Following the July 27 Assembly worksession, Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA) was asked to provide details on what it could accomplish with \$4.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this request.

In the second round of ARPA funding, CIHA requested \$6.25 million to support three housing development projects (Ch'Bala Corners Phase II, Brewster's Mountain View Redevelopment, and Coronado Park Triplexes). These projects add up to 64 units of new affordable rental housing and achievable homeownership across three Anchorage neighborhoods. The bulk of construction is expected to occur in 2023 and 2024. In these proposals, CIHA sought to leverage this funding with more than \$24 million of other sources to create new, affordable, high-quality dwelling units in the Anchorage community.

It is our understanding that the Assembly is considering an overall commitment of \$4.5 million to support CIHA's projects. CIHA appreciates the flexibility provided by this scenario. If approved, the majority of this funding would be immediately deployed to Ch'Bala Corners Phase II, a shovel-ready, 38-unit affordable housing development in a rapidly-transforming corner of central Spenard. The remaining funding will be distributed to the Brewster's Mountain View Redevelopment, a 20-unit affordable housing development, which needs funding in order to leverage other anticipated sources including MOA HOME and State of Alaska CDBG-DR. Both Ch'Bala and Brewster's meet the definition of affordable housing required of ARPA funding and fulfill long-term compliance requirements. CIHA is also seeking ways to move forward with Coronado Park Triplexes in 2022 and 2023.

Taken together, CIHA's projects represent a long-term, high-impact, and well-timed investment by the Municipality of Anchorage and the Anchorage Assembly. The rental housing developments carry full operational funding for decades to come. These projects meaningfully and rapidly address the community's critical need for housing in partnership with CIHA's proven and extensive development and management experience.

Thank you again for your consideration and partnership.

Mark Fineman, VP, Development and Tyler Robinson, VP, Community Development and Real Estate

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Organization: Visit Anchorage

Project Title: Alaska Native Cultures: Frontline Training development

Request: \$10,000, currently on the priority list for \$10,000

Updated Information:

From: Jack Bonney <jbonney@anchorage.net>

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2022 9:58 AM

The intent is that Visit Anchorage would be the recipient of funds and would use them to hire subject matter experts. These might include the Alaska Native Heritage Center, the museum, elders, and culture bearers. A portion may also go to video recording and editing services. None of the funds would be retained by Visit Anchorage at the conclusion of the project.

The main deliverable would be a series of short, recorded videos that introduce Alaska Native cultures, expand cultural understanding, and improve the level of cultural interpretation in Anchorage tourism companies. The videos would be available publicly and on-demand, but be geared mainly to frontline workers in travel and tourism. Our hope is that tour guides, hotel staff, and others in the community will be better equipped about Alaska Native cultures and in turn be better equipped to help visitors learn and explore during their travels.

We think short, recorded modules would be of highest value, given the broad variety of training schedules seasonally, and the highly regimented nature of some companies' onboarding processes. Depending on implementation by private industry, the training could reach hundreds or even thousands of employees over time. The planning and production of these videos might also lead to creation of a curriculum that could be presented as live, in-person training sometime in the future.

Please let us know if there are other questions about this or other ARPA ideas - glad to help!

Jack Bonney | [Community Engagement Director](#)

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Organization: Dream Big Academy, Inc., and Airport Heights PTA
Project Title: Airport Heights Unite: Restoring Family and Neighborhood Engagement in Education
Request: \$55,000, currently on the priority list for \$35,000

Updated Information:

From: Dean Potter <deanbpotter@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2022 3:39 PM

Subject: Re: ARPA project question

Is \$35,000 enough to accomplish our goals?

Yes, mostly. If you take a look at our application, it's composed of four programs that each have a tentative budget. With \$35,000, we could accomplish three of the four. Further, the ARPA funding would bring serious momentum to the project and help to bring in other funding partners. And to some extent, the project scope can flex in response to funding.

What is the potential for scaling the project?

The structure and methods of the project -- how it's researched, managed, delivered and assessed -- are widely applicable and could serve as a pilot for engagement projects at other schools. We'd be happy to share our experience of conducting the project.

If other schools took on similar efforts, the specifics of their programming (for example, the particular cultural ambassadors, visiting artists, etc.) would vary in response to their unique communities. To the extent that other schools share Airport Heights' interests, demographics, local resources, etc., they would benefit from our project's network of people, organizations, and vendors.

Other constraints on scaling would be funding and school-by-school management organizations. In terms of administering such projects, the applicant, Dream Big Academy, Inc., is limited by its non-profit articles of incorporation to working only at Airport Heights Elementary.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Dean Potter
President, Dream Big Academy, Inc., and Airport Heights parent
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Dream Big Academy, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to enhancing education at Airport Heights Elementary.