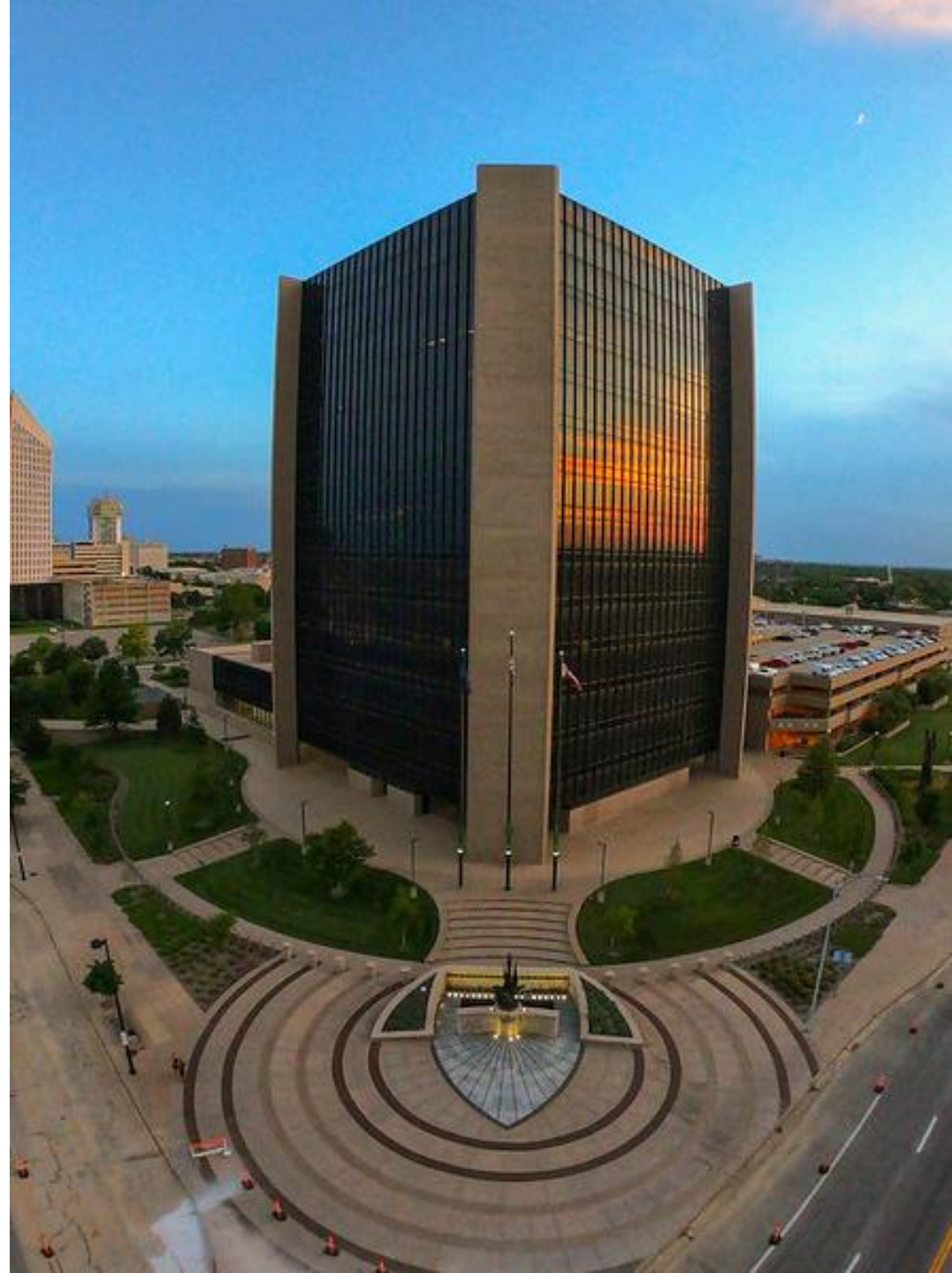


CARES Act ESG Funding Allocation for United Way of the Plains, Inc. COVID-19 Vaccination Incentive



Housing & Community
Services/Community
Investments Division

February 15, 2022



Background



- The City of Wichita is recognized as an entitlement city by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and receives Federal funding for community development activities.
- Specific entitlement funding sources include the Community Development Block Grant program, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program.



Background



- The ESG program provides funding to improve and operate homeless shelters, rapidly re-house families and individuals experiencing homelessness, and prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless.
- The City has received \$3,301,120 in ESG funding authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).



Analysis



- United Way of the Plains, Inc. has requested ESG funding in the amount of \$50,000 to support a program that would provide incentives for homeless individuals to be vaccinated for COVID-19
 - Payroll and benefits: \$15,000
 - Contract Labor (Security staffing): \$5,000
 - Gift card incentives: \$30,000
- United Way will collaborate with homeless shelter and service provider agencies to organize vaccination clinics and other opportunities for homeless individuals to receive the COVID-19 vaccine



Analysis



- Funding will also be used to purchase merchandise gift cards for program participants
- Gift cards will be purchased from local retailers where participating homeless individuals could purchase food items, as well as personal care/hygiene products.
- United Way proposes to offer a \$30 gift card to homeless individuals upon receiving the first, second, and/or booster vaccine dose
- The program anticipates that 400 individuals will receive two doses of the vaccine and 200 individuals will receive the booster vaccine dose



Financial Considerations



- There is no impact to the General Fund
- Unused ESG CARES funds from the Landlord Incentive Program will be reallocated to this program
- The City must expend 80 percent of awarded ESG-CV funding by March 31, 2022, or it is subject to recapture by HUD



Recommendation



- It is recommended that the City Council approve the funding allocation and authorize the funding agreement and necessary signatures.



