

CITY OF BAKERSFIELD

Recovery Plan



State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2022 Report

CITY OF BAKERSFIELD
2022 Project and Expenditure Report

Table of Contents

General Overview.....	2
Executive Summary.....	2
Uses of Funds	2
Promoting Equitable Outcomes	3
Community Engagement	3
Labor Practices	3
Use of Evidence	3
Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category	4
 Project Inventory.....	 7
Example Project	7
Additional Projects.....	7

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

In March 2020, the City of Bakersfield declared a local emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and from that point forward the City has worked to mitigate the negative impacts of this significant and widespread disease on the community. The City initiated a number of programs during the 2020 calendar year, including: small business assistance, rental & mortgage assistance, educational & outreach programs, and direct services by City staff to those affected by the pandemic. Much of these programs and services were funded by Federal Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds through the CARES Act. While the eligibility for those CARES dollars sunset at the end of 2020, much of the services needed both for the direct impact of COVID-19, as well as the need to move forward with the important work of economic recovery within the City of Bakersfield has continued.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by the President in March 2021, in part, with the intent to continue many of the programs started by the CARES Act. ARPA included funding through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) of \$350 billion and the City of Bakersfield received a direct allocation of \$94.5 million. The City will use these funds to not only continue some of the important programs and services that were funded by the CARES Act but has establish new programs. These programs will be focused on economic recovery and revitalization, particularly within its disadvantaged communities, infrastructure related project, lost revenue recovery, and health and wellness programs.

Uses of Funds

The City of Bakersfield recognizes the important role that the SLFRF allocation will have on the community's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic as well addressing significant needs of its underserved population. The City has established a number of programs intended to address the negative impacts of the recent pandemic, especially related to the disproportionate impact it had had on disadvantaged communities, as defined by HUD's Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs). Many of these programs have established the requirements and method of distribution, but the related awards for contracted agencies are pending or have just been granted. Some are intended to build off the successes the City has seen with programs funded via the State of California through the CARES Act and the Emergency Rental & Housing Assistance programs funded both through CARES and APRA. Beyond leveraging successful programs, the City intends to provide a full-scope affordable housing program, focused on creating additional housing and removing blighted properties, providing an opportunity for new-builds. The City has also elected to use the standard allowance available for lost revenue recovery of \$10 million, per the Final Rule issued by the Department of Treasury, which will be used to provide various government services for the community.

The City has been able to direct portions of its SLFRF allocation in the current reporting period towards the continued funding of certain payroll costs for Public Safety Employees. In particular, funds are used to cover a portion of City Fire Department staffing to address the public health emergency that continues to affect the community. The City has funded staffing based on the number of medical callouts for service the Fire Department had during the reporting period, specifically in its firefighting division, meaning administrative and other operational units are not

included. This is similar to how public safety segments of the CARES allocation were used in 2020. This methodology is expected to continue throughout the funding period of SLFRF and is viewed as equitable and in line with the intent of the grant.

The operation of the City's arena, convention center and amphitheater suffered substantial negative financial impacts with event cancelations and an overall reduction in tourism in the local community. To supplement that tourism related activity, an amount of SLFRF funds was allocated by the City Council to ensure the continued operations of these venues. In particular, an amount was specifically assigned to cover shortfalls brought about during the 2019-20 and the 2020-21 fiscal years. This allocation will also be used to upgrade some of the more dated facilities in the current fiscal year.

Promoting equitable outcomes

The SLFRF funds approved by ARPA must be used in part to achieve or promote equitable outcomes or progress against equity goals. The City understands the importance of promoting those equitable outcomes, so the majority of programs and services that have been established, work on how best to achieve this. This includes programs meant to service historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups with a particular focus on QCT's utilizing a multi-faceted approach. Doing so will allow the design and delivery of these services to generate outcomes that close gaps, reach universal levels of service, and disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, and other relevant equity areas. These programs are targeting the growth a sustainable workforce, increasing community safety by building resilience, assisting impacted industries, and revitalizing local businesses. The programs have not begun in force but will gather both qualitative and quantitative data will be gathered to assess outcomes and determine that there is progress towards the important goal of equity.

The City continues to focus expenditures on payroll costs incurred by Public Safety employees providing medical services to members of the community and Housing Support for homeless individuals. Data related to service provided and paid for with SLFRF funds shows that 32.5% of medical call outs and 32.5% of all emergency service calls responded to by the Bakersfield Fire Department were in QCT areas of the City. Support for local hospitals is also a priority as the City is providing an opportunity for local Acute Care hospitals Those eligible are currently applying for SLFRF allocations to off-set costs associated with providing Critical Pay to nurses. Critical pay refers to pay provided in addition to regular hourly pay as an incentive to provide coverage for hard-to-cover or essential shifts during the pandemic.

Bakersfield and the larger Kern County have long suffered the effects of a high rate of death related to heart disease. Many existing adverse health conditions were exacerbated during the pandemic, where access to services was challenged. The City will utilize SLFRF to will focus funding collaboration with various entities with a dedicated focus on improving citywide wellness through policy and practice changes.

The number of homeless and unhoused individuals and families has continued to grow over the last several years in Bakersfield. As such, in October 2020, the City of Bakersfield opened the Brundage Lane Navigation Center (BLNC), a 150-bed shelter offering comprehensive supportive services to residents. In December 2021, City Council approved the expansion of BLNC to 260+ beds, for which SLFRF funds will be incorporated among additional local funding. As part of the SLFRF programming, funding will be provided to the BLNC to provide operational

support during the facilities expansion in 2022-2023. BLNC is a collaborative-focused endeavor, using a multi-agency service approach, the BLNC offers on-site medical, behavioral health and substance use disorder access and linkage to care.

Community Engagement

The City recognizes the need for outreach and engagement as it builds the various programs and services funded by the SLFRF. The City has recently conducted and will continue to conduct relevant community outreach in QCTs related to state and federal grant programs and the use of City funding that has been allocated for revitalization of disadvantaged communities. The City plans to leverage these connected outreach efforts to align and deploy SLFRF programs to greatest effect. Written, oral and other forms of feedback will be encouraged along with dialog with community-based organizations. There will be a specific focus on how to best serve people with significant barriers to services, including people of color, people with low incomes, limited English proficient populations, and other traditionally underserved groups.

Labor Practices

Potential infrastructure projects will be pursued using strong labor standards that will result in high-quality facilities. The City's standard practice when planning for these types of federally funded projects focus on project labor agreements that offer wages at or above the prevailing rate and include local hire provisions, not only to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects but also to support economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers. The City continues to gather information and evaluate the needs of the community but will formulate plans for Water, Sewer, and Broadband infrastructure in time.

Use of Evidence

When applicable, the City will identify if and when SLFRF funds are to be used for evidence-based interventions and/or if projects will be assessed through program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. Currently, staff is still reviewing options for programs and services that will be provided through this funding source, so the metrics have not been established. Similar to our approach with Community Engagement, the City will look to leverage evidence-based interventions that are already in place or that are being deployed through other funding sources and initiatives that will be well-aligned with the intent and parameters for SLFRF funds. Current projects and related expenditures focus on actual medical services provided and recovery efforts in the tourism industry, with the related outputs are reported in the Project Inventory section of the current Performance Plan. The use of an evidenced-based intervention does not appear to be applicable for these programs but the needs for other programs that have been established are currently being assessed. While no activity on these other programs has yet occurred, the accompanying Project Inventory includes descriptions of the evidence based approach anticipated for the applicable programs..

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination		
1.2	COVID-19 Testing		
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing		
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)		
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment		
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)		
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency		
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)		
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	8,202,554	3,051,516
1.10	Mental Health Services		
1.11	Substance Use Services		
1.12	Other Public Health Services		
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs		
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid		
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers		
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs		
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention		
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers		
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)		
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)		
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations		
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	1,317,545	1,317,545

2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries		
2.13	Other Economic Support		
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff		
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning		
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts		
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services		
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services		
3.5	Education Assistance: Other		
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care		
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting		
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System		
3.9	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other		
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing		
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons		
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance		
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other		
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators		
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation		
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions		
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees		
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers		
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment		
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance		
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater		
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows		
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure		
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation		
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation		
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source		
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment		

5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution		
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation		
5.13	Drinking water: Source		
5.14	Drinking water: Storage		
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure		
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects		
5.17	Broadband: Other projects		
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services		
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	59,367	59,367
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis		
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government		
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)		

Project Inventory

Project [Identification Number]: GARP30 – ARPA - Public Safety

Funding amount: \$19,000,000

Annual Budgeted amount: \$8,000,000

Anticipated Start Date:04/01/2021

Anticipated End Date:06/30/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC-1.9 Public Health

Project overview: Cost Reimbursement for Covid-related services

The City of Bakersfield Fire Department has provided emergency medical services to the community since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The SLFRF funds budgeted in the project cover a portion of the costs incurred by Fire Department staff based on the monthly EMS callouts. These costs are only covering the applicable percentage of the department's Fire Fighting division and do not include the costs of the Administration, Training, Arson, or other ancillary operations.

Use of Evidence

The services covered under this project are demand based and are in direct response to emergency needs in the community. The City must continue to provide these services as the pandemic has not diminished and instead has seen another spike. The project is one where evidenced-based intervention tracking is considered not applicable or necessary. That said we have provided data of the EMS calls responded to in the Performance Report section of the report below.

Performance Report

GARP30 - APRA Public Safety	April 2021 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022
FIRE EMS CALLS	7,061	28,974
FIRE EMS CALLS IN A QCT	2,980	9,427
CALLS SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED AS COVID-19	2,180	1,493

Project [Identification Number]: LUZ211

Funding amount: \$6,000,000

Annual Budgeted amount:

Anticipated Start Date:01/01/2023

Anticipated End Date:01/01/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC-3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project overview: Brundage Lane Navigation Center (BLNC) Operational Costs

Over much of the last decade, Bakersfield and the adjoining communities making up Kern County have seen growth in the number of identified homeless individuals reported during annual Point in Time Counts. Existing services became overwhelmed to the point that the existing shelters were constantly at maximum capacity leading to increasingly high numbers of adults, youth and families being forced into street homelessness. Kern County and the City of Bakersfield have been proactive in combating the need for increased services, shelters and access to affordable housing. In October 2020, the City of Bakersfield opened the Brundage Lane Navigation Center (BLNC).

The BLNC provided 150 beds in its 24/7/365 emergency shelter, focused on linking homeless individuals to affordable housing. In its consideration for the needs of the population served, the City incorporates an on-site collaborative health center which is staffed by clinical and social work professionals from the Kern County Department of Human Services, Kern Medical Center and Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. Clients can begin to address physical and behavioral health or substance use care needs while also applying for cash aid, health benefits or nutrition assistance on site. Dogs are also welcomed, allowing those who would be apprehensive to sheltering an opportunity to exit street homelessness without surrendering or abandoning their animal.

First and foremost, the goal of the BLNC is to help individuals obtain housing. Case managers assist clients interested in obtaining vouchered housing and other resources necessary to exit homelessness permanently. From its opening in October 2020 to April 1, 2022, 127 individuals have exited to housing by the BLNC.

Continued growth trends in the numbers of homeless individuals in Kern County demonstrated the need for additional services as the Point-in-Time count totals increased 36% from 1580 in 2020 to 2150 in 2021. With the addition of the BLNC services and shelter, more people are able to begin the process to become housed, however, there is a shortage of affordable housing options that often leave clients waiting for a vacancy. The SLFRF will address this need through at least one additional program aimed at increasing affordable housing units.

Understand that the need is growing, Bakersfield's City Council approved in December 2021, plans to expand the shelter. Factors including COVID and the climate have created fluctuations in the number of residents. Due to consistent full capacity, bed count will increase from 150 to 269. There will also be expansions to on-site recuperative care, kenneling and cafeteria space.

The physical expansion of the center is currently budgeted using local funds. The project will also increase the amount of funding necessary for operation. The City of Bakersfield will utilize the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for expanded service operation at the BLNC site, to accommodate the higher capacity. The SLFRF is intended to fund two years of expanded homeless services at the BLNC. Mercy House, an experienced

organization working with multiple counties to provide comprehensive homeless services is the contracted operator on-site. As part of their work, they will continue to collect and report data and outcomes, which will be included in SLFRF reporting. As such, data from year one operations will serve as baseline data from which to measure ongoing outcomes through project duration.

Current program challenges include the number of clients who leave BLNC abruptly, before data can be obtained on where they are going. Because the BLNC client population often struggled with mental health and/or substance use concerns, behavior can be unpredictable. Clients may return to the facility but will need to be referred by a homeless services provider in the community.

The ARPA funds authorize the use of funding for emergency programs and services for homeless individuals including temporary residences for persons experiencing homelessness. The requested appropriation will be utilized to reimburse the City for costs incurred to date for the expansion project, as well as cover the additional costs of the expansion.

Use of Evidence

The service provider, for the City of Bakersfield owned and operated facility contracts direct services with Mercy House, Inc. Founded in 1988, the model used by Mercy House incorporates comprehensive supportive services to those experiencing homelessness. Through collaboration with county entities, the City is also able to provide on-site linkage to physical and behavioral health care services as well as necessary resources to help individuals exit homelessness. The approach mirrors ideas of Housing First and Harm Reduction, with the goal of providing shelter and services to those in need regardless of their status. As such, the BLNC serves a number of homeless subpopulations, including: men, women, veterans, chronically homeless, individuals experiencing mental health and or substance use disorders, etc.

Performance Report

LUZ211 - APRA Housing Support		
Outcomes	FY 20-21 (Oct-June)	FY 21-22 (July – June)
Number of Clients (Unduplicated)	700	789
First-time enrollments	66	197
Exits to Permanent or Temporary Housing	71	99
Exits to Unknown Destinations	408	551

Demographics FY 21-22

Gender:

Male: 459 Female: 327 No Single Gender: 0 Transgender: 3

Age:

18-24: 66 25-44: 356 45-61: 292 62+: 75

Race:

Caucasian: 545 Black/African American: 178 Multiple: 27 Asian: 8
Native Hawaiian or API: 7 American Indian/Alaskan Native: 23 Declined: 1

Veteran Status:

Veteran: 29 Non-Veteran: 760

Project [Identification Number]: LRP223

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Annual Budgeted amount: \$2,000,000

Anticipated Start Date: 07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date: 06/30/2023

Project Expenditure Category: EC – 2.11- Aid to Travel, Tourism or Hospitality

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project overview: Aid to Travel, Tourism or Hospitality

The City of Bakersfield, in normal years has a robust catalog of ongoing community activities drawing audiences throughout the City, County and surrounding areas. Bakersfield's premier venue for sporting events, concerts and shows has been the Mechanics Bank Arena and Theater.

During 2019, the largest venue in Bakersfield's Downtown District did well, operating with relatively minimal operating loss. At the close of Fiscal Year 2020, with the pandemic onset at the final quarter, the operating loss for the local Mechanics Bank Arena and Theater closed with an operating loss at five-times over that of the previous year and a revenue drop by nearly 19 percent. Losses resulted in reduction of employees resulting from a lack of events. By the close of fiscal year 2021, the Arena experienced an additional 80 percent revenue loss while operating losses more than doubled, topping over \$2 million. That loss was exacerbated by ninety events being canceled during the pandemic resulting in an estimated reduction of \$1.3 million in lost ticket sales.

As such, the City has dedicated up to \$2,000,000 to aid the Mechanics Bank Arena operations as they strive to regain revenues by welcoming new and traditional events and activities.

Use of Evidence

Evidence-based practices were not used for this project.

Performance Report

At present, the program has provided \$1.3 million in recovery funding for the Mechanics Bank Arena and Theater, and additional \$700,000 is expected to be allocated during FY 2022-23.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP226

Funding amount: \$500,000

Annual Budgeted amount: \$500,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2022

Project Expenditure Category: EC – 2.12 – Aid to impacted industries – Hospitals

Leading Department: City Manager's Office

Project Overview: Critical Pay Reimbursement for Local Acute Care Hospitals

In 2022, the City of Bakersfield approved \$500,000 to be made available to acute care hospitals located within the City for reimbursement of critical pay provided to nursing staff as incentive over regular hourly pay for working additional shifts during the pandemic.

For much of the pandemic, local acute care hospitals were inundated with COVID-19 and non-COVID cases for which their staffing levels were not sufficient to cover. As such, hospitals employed strategies including contracting with travel nurses and utilizing incentive pay options to encourage staff to work critical shifts when necessary. This allowed hospitals to maintain an acceptable staff-to-patient ratio. CARES Act funding helped keep hospitals operational in many cases as they were hit hard, pivoting to provide necessary care to patients with COVID-19.

Bakersfield hospitals will be applying for funding based on need with allocations determined and disbursed in late 2022.

Use of Evidence

Evidence-based practices were not used in the development of this program.

Performance Report

Up to five hospitals will be provided funding not to exceed a total disbursement of \$500,000. Total number of hospitals receiving funding is dependent on the number of applications and staffing levels. Actual data will be provided in the next iteration of this report.

Project [Identification Number]: GARP60

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Annual Budgeted amount: \$1,000,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:06/30/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC – 3.13 – Social Determinants of Health - Other

Leading Department: City Manager's Office

Project Overview: Citywide Wellness Initiative – Blue Zones

The City of Bakersfield and larger Kern County has for years been inundated with poor health outcomes including obesity leading to higher occurrence of diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease. During the COVID-19 pandemic unhealthy practices were exacerbated by encouraged isolation, challenges in accessing regular health care and in some cases, trouble accessing healthy foods.

To align with the City's goal of creating a healthier community, part of the SLFRF programming will be dedicated to working in collaboration with multiple public and private entities to begin the collaborative process certifying Bakersfield as a Blue Zone. The City intends to provide funding for the Foundation phase, which will initiate the project and focus on developing the workplan driving which will drive the five-year Transformation process. Additional funding will be provided through at least Transformation Year 1. Throughout each phase of the project, the City will provide input as part of the ongoing Blue Zones Steering Committee.

Blue Zones is a project dedicated to transforming communities using policy change and the adoption of healthy habits over a five-year certification period. Certified Blue Zones have been developed in partnership with communities around the world, who have been successful in driving down negative health outcomes. The project works to create a safer, healthier environment by working with private and public sector entities to optimize community space and create access that promotes healthy lifestyle changes. Some of the targeted areas for improvement in communities around the United States have been decreased occurrence of overweight and obese children and adults, decreased rate of smoking among adults, lowered perception of stress and increased annual healthcare savings for employers.

The Blue Zones project and aligned principles have been featured in periodicals including *Men's Health* magazine and the *American Heart Association* journal, particularly focusing on dietary and activity practices fundamental to increasing longevity.

Use of Evidence

While the Blue Zones project is not an evidence-based project, it is considered a systems approach which utilizes "long-term, evidence-backed policies and interventions to optimize environments."

Performance Report

During the Foundation period, the Blue Zones team will:

- Assemble and provide program training to local leadership and Steering Committee members
- Recruit and coach volunteers for committees

- Conduct a Well-Being Index baseline survey, which will be used to evaluate opportunities to improve wellbeing and measure progress throughout the project period
- Conduct Policy Summits for built environment, food systems, alcohol and tobacco
- Completion of planning phase meetings to build interest and commitment with key community leaders
- Develop and circulate a planning phase report summarizing current initiatives and strengths and opportunities for implementing the Blue Zones project
- Deploy community awareness, public relations and marketing campaign
- Formation and training of the Steering Committee, Leadership Committee and sector committees
- Develop the Blueprint, which will act as the workplan for the project, defining the process and outcome measures for Community transformation

During the Transformation period, the Blue Zones team will:

- Provide public relations and marketing support
- Implement the Blueprint workplan
- Utilize Blueprint tactics/strategies to achieve documented milestones and activities, providing regular reports on progress
- Provide promotional events including a Community Kick-Off
- Develop and deploy pledges and support materials for each community sector
- Develop and deploy materials to support each initiative including playbooks for sector work, committee and volunteer training (ongoing), turnkey marketing materials and create access to web-based tools and resources

Annual reporting on progress of the project will be provided at the appropriate times correlating with the active phases of the project.

Project [Identification Number]: P2C068

Funding amount: \$5,600,000

Annual Budgeted amount: \$1,400,000

Anticipated Start Date: 11/01/2022

Anticipated End Date: 12/31/2026

Project Expenditure Category: EC – 3.13 – Social Determinants of Health - Other

Leading Department: Recreation & Parks

Project Overview: Park Improvements – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park (MLK) is deeply rooted in the Southeast Bakersfield Community. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the park was a community hub, bustling with activity weekly and the home of many annual neighborhood events. After hours programs, which took place 2-3 days each week prior to the pandemic, something which has not continued since the pandemics cooling off period. Since COVID the deteriorating conditions of the park caused by the impact of homelessness and crime has had a significant impact on the users and surrounding community.

At various times during the week 20-40% percent of the park areas are covered with encampments. Approximately 50% of park users are unsheltered individuals. Participation rates at the Community Center has decreased by an average of 1500 monthly (duplicated count) visits.

To garner community support in determining how the park should be reimagined, the Bakersfield City Recreation and Parks Department has hosted a series of community engagement opportunities. Council leadership met with neighborhood residents and community leaders to

discuss how the parks project for MLK could be restored, reimagined, and optimized for its users.

Some of the top priorities identified were Safety, a Community and Cultural Center to support the arts, sports activities and provide a wellness and resource hub for the community, and the addition of a Community Garden.

At present, the City is working to develop several concepts which will be brought back to stakeholders, elected officials and the community-at-large in a continued series of community engagement. Once a concept has been approved, the design process is anticipated to begin in November 2022 and is estimated to be complete in April 2023. First phase of construction for the MLK project is slated to begin in FY 2023-2024.

The City's plan is to utilize SLFRF funding in part for the project design and first phase of construction, budgeted up to \$5,600,000 in total over fiscal years 2022-23 through 2025-26. This may include the addition of temporary facilities during construction periods to provide continuity of services for the surrounding neighborhoods residents. The project is currently estimated to total around \$30 million, with other funding sources including various grants (e.g. Community Development Block Grant), state and federal dollars as well as local funds.

Use of Evidence

This project will work to address Social Determinants of Health specifically centered on Social and Community Context by providing a safe space for community to gather and take part in recreational and leisure-time activities. Due to the nature of the project and community involvement in its reimagining, much effort is being provided by the City to enhance the natural and built environment of the park.

Performance Report

Once the City completes its robust stakeholder process, information regarding community engagement and park priorities will be included in the data report for the next iteration of the Recovery Plan. Additionally, data will be provided on active programs and numbers served throughout the course of the project.

Project [Identification Number]: T3K324

Total Funding amount: \$6,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$2,000,000

Anticipated Start Date: 01/01/2023

Anticipated End Date: 12/31/2026

Project Expenditure Category: EC-1.9 Public Health 7 Wellness Initiatives

Leading Department: Public Works

Project overview: Safe Routes to Schools and Parks

The City of Bakersfield Public Works Department is charged with designing, building and maintaining various infrastructure within the public rights-of-way throughout the City. Providing safe and effective transportation infrastructure that meets the present-day standard for multimodal transportation is critically important where infrastructure maintenance needs exist. Within the City of Bakersfield there are significant maintenance needs in disadvantaged areas with qualified census tracts where new, innovative infrastructure can be created, rather than maintaining rights-of-way under old policies designed to move vehicular traffic quickly, with little regard for multimodal use.

This project has been established to design and build improvements within the public rights-of-way that are intended to improve the safety of multimodal users, particularly pedestrians, bicyclists, and eScooter and eBike users, while continuing to manage vehicular use. Projects can also be tied to mobility to and from schools and parks.

Use of Evidence

The projects being designed, and implemented are tied to a variety of data, including crash reports, speed, volume, vehicular type, injury, fatality, and public input. As noted by Smart Growth America, the Bakersfield metropolitan is ranked 7th most dangerous in the Country for pedestrians. Car Insurance.org ranked the Bakersfield metro area as the 11th most dangerous for bicyclist in the country.

Anticipated Number of Individual Served Annually

Estimated 70,000 persons.

The Kern County High School District is the largest in California, with a population of 42,000 students.

The Bakersfield City School District is the largest K-12 school district in California, with a population of 30,000 students.

The City maintains more than a dozen parks within the disadvantaged zones.

Performance Report

- Increased multimodal use of public spaces connecting parks, schools, and public rights of way.
- Lower vehicular speeds.
- Reduced crashes, injuries, and fatalities.
- Reduced motor vehicle volumes and increased pedestrian, bicycle, eScooter, and eBike rates.
- Decrease in impervious area (pavement), increase in pervious (open) space.

T3K234 – Safe Route to Schools		
Outcomes	2016 - 2020	2030
Pedestrian Fatalities	152	
Bicycle Fatalities	9	
Overall Crashes	1,133	
Vehicular Traffic Volume	Street Dependent See Detail	

- Total bike fatalities (last 4 years): 9
- Share of fatalities where cyclist wore a helmet: 0%
- Number of bike commuters: 768

- Average ped deaths/100k people per year: 3.41
- Pedestrian deaths (2016-2020): 152

Disadvantaged/Prosperity Park & School Areas for Projects

SCHOOLS

Freemont Elementary School
Bessie Owens School
Williams Elementary School
South High School
Plantation Elementary School
Owens Intermediate School
Owens Primary School
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School

PARKS

Lowell Park
Beale Park
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park
Wayside Park
David Nelson Park

This project will include adding traffic radar feedback signage, retroreflective backplates, speedhump design and pavement marking among other necessary safety improvements.

Project [Identification Number]: GARP70

Total Funding amount: \$2,500,000

Annual Budgeted funding: \$500,000

Anticipated Start Date: 10/01/2022

Anticipated End Date: 12/31/2026

Project Expenditure Category: EC-5.8 Water Conservation

Leading Department: Water Resources

Project Overview: Water Conservation – Turf Replacement Program

The Turf Replacement Program is designed to reduce the demand on the City of Bakersfield's water supply and focus on conserving potable water. The Program will reduce water demands and allow for water savings by replacing lawn and turf with drought friendly landscaping for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers served by the City of Bakersfield's domestic water system. The implementation of the Turf-to-Garden program will involve two options for

Use of Evidence:

Though there is research on evidence regarding turf replacement programs, this project did not use any evidence-based practice while developing or deploying the project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

The number of participating customers will vary based on the type of turf-to-garden program chosen.

Performance Report:

The Turf Replacement Program will result in reduced water demands which will help the City's drought resiliency and help continue ensuring safe drinking water for the residents of Bakersfield. Fully optimizing the programs funding will result in a potential area benefit of 714,285 square feet and a water savings of 12,857,130 gallons of water.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP221

Total Funding amount: \$9,000,000

Annual Budgeted funding: \$2,250,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2026

Project Expenditure Category: EC-3.10 Affordable Housing

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Affordable Housing Program

Invest in programs and services to support long-term housing securing including the development, construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing. Funding will be used to support new construction and in-fill development projects.

Use of Evidence:

There were no evidence-based practices adopted in the development of this program.

Anticipated number of individuals served:

200 affordable housing are anticipated to be made available by the end of the project term.

Performance Report:

Increased housing availability for individuals and families with low and very low income.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP222

Total Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Annual Budgeted funding: \$500,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 3.12 Housing Support

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Home Rehabilitation Program

This program will provide home repairs and weatherization within Qualified Census Tracts (QCT), including accessibility projects, HVAC, roofing and electrical upgrades. Bakersfield often experiences extreme weather conditions, especially during summer. Many families living in QCT areas are in desperate need of enhanced weatherization for both increased quality of life and in cases of under weatherized homes, cost savings associated with utility bills.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

50 homes

Anticipated Outcomes:

Housing condition improvement, social determinants of health reduced.

Project [Identification Number]: P2L003

Total Funding amount: \$5,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$2,500,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 3.13 Social Determinants of Health - Other

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Blighted Properties Purchases

This program will provide improvements to existing vacant and abandoned properties, including rehabilitation or maintenance, renovation, removal, remediation, demolition, deconstruction and/or clean up. Within the City, there are a number of properties that have long been empty as businesses or other entities have shut down or relocated. Because empty buildings can become a safety hazard in various ways, this project will allow the City to identify and target blighted properties for either acquisition or elimination of blight.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

The number of individuals will be impacted by the neighborhoods surrounding blight removal. Because those locations have not been secured at present, the numbers served will be reported in the next iteration of this report.

Anticipated Outcomes:

Developing healthier, safer neighborhoods.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP224

Total Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$1,000,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 2.11- Aid to impacted industries

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Tourism Industry Program

This program will aid the travel, tourism and hospitality industry, as well as related arts and cultural programs impacted by the pandemic. The program will also provide funding to implement grants to assist small venues and non-profit organizations negatively impacted by the pandemic.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

40 businesses

Anticipated Outcomes:

As a result of funding aid, it is anticipated that local venues will have an opportunity to recover to a level closer to the 2019 strength of travel, tourism and hospitality.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP227

Total Funding amount: \$4,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$2,000,000

Anticipated Start Date:01/01/2023

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 2.7- Job Assistance

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Workforce Development and Training

Through this project the City will work with local educational institutions and partnering organizations to develop and implement an internship and/or apprenticeship program within the private sector. This program will focus on individuals residing in Qualified Census Tracts.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

200

Anticipated Outcomes:

By increasing knowledge and skills of the workforce, the City anticipates providing the opportunity for businesses to be adequately staffed and job seekers the opportunity to obtain gainful employment earning them a living wage.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP331

Total Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$1,000,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:06/30/2023

Project Expenditure Category: EC-3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Workforce Development and Training

The City of Bakersfield wishes to fund emergency programs or services for homeless individuals including temporary residents for people experiencing homelessness, especially in sub-populations such as youth, seniors, and other defined sub-populations. The City is working with the regional homeless collaborative (COC) to develop a comprehensive regional action plan on homelessness set to be completed in December 2022. The action plan will ensure that the right type of services are built out to meet the City's need

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

50 homeless individuals served annually

Anticipated Outcomes:

Decreases in unhoused individuals within the community.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP228

Total Funding amount: \$3,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$1,500,000

Anticipated Start Date:01/01/2023

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 2.13 - Other Economic Support

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Façade Improvement Program

This program will assist local small businesses operating in Qualified Census Tracts with the rehabilitation of commercial properties, storefront improvements and façade improvements.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

10 businesses or projects

Anticipated Outcomes:

Small businesses owners will attract more business from local and visiting customers.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP229

Total Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$500,000

Anticipated Start Date:01/01/2023

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 2.13 - Other Economic Support

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Business Expansion Program

The City will use the existing Economic Opportunity Assistance program to provide financial assistance to reduce the business's cost of opening, completing building improvements, business expansion, moving costs, development fees and costs associated with required public improvements.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

20 businesses

Anticipated Outcomes:

Small businesses owners will be able to focus on providing services and goods more adequately to local and visiting customers by reducing the amount of time and resources used to open, expand, move or develop their business space.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP220

Total Funding amount: \$3,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$1,500,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 3.13 – Social Determinants of Health - Other

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Business District Revitalization

For this project, SLFRF dollars will be combined with existing local tax set aside funds to be put toward the Downtown Redevelopment Fund, used to assist in the redevelopment of vacant or blighted properties in the business district.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

20 businesses

Anticipated Outcomes:

Blighted properties in the business district often repel potential customers due in part to perception of safety. By removing blight, the Business District will both attract new business owners to the area as well as draw in consumers for existing business.

Project [Identification Number]: LRP230

Total Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$1,000,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 2.9 – Aid to other impacted industries

Leading Department: Economic and Community Development

Project Overview: Entrepreneurial Assistance

For new businesses starting in Qualified Census Tracts, the City will provide funding to assist with the start-up, expansion and/or retention projects. This project will also dedicate funding toward providing applicants with technical assistance needed for the funding application process.

Use of Evidence:

There was no use of evidence-based practice in the development of this project.

Anticipated number of individuals served annually:

The number of businesses impacted will be determined by the number of applicants for funding and will be reported in the next iteration of this report.

Anticipated Outcomes:

Business owners will apply for and receive funding to support appropriate projects increasing the number of viable businesses in Bakersfield.

Project [Identification Number]: E3K308
Total Funding amount: \$5,000,000
Annual Budgeted Funding: \$2,000,000
Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022
Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024
Project Expenditure Category: EC- 5.6 - Stormwater
Leading Department: Public Works

Project overview: Stormwater Collection, Conveyance and Treatment System Upgrade

When originally developed in the early 1900's, the City of Bakersfield's stormwater management system was designed to accommodate a 10-year 1-hour storm event. Since that time, open spaces of the City have developed with more impervious area coverage and the effects of climate change have caused more intense rainfall events and a greater frequencies of the 10-year, 1-hour storm. This design level storm can easily be seen once every two to four years. This has required the City to reconsider the design storm event in order to build greater resiliency within the City.

The City is currently planning complete street designs that will integrate a stormwater management system as part of a streetscape projects intended to have a multifaceted public benefit for transportation, public safety, aesthetics, redevelopment, and stormwater management. Implementation of the stormwater components directly affect disadvantaged neighborhoods and business centers along segments of Chester Avenue, H Street, 18th Street, 19th Street and other isolated locations within the downtown area. This project includes survey, design, engineering, construction and construction inspection.

Use of Evidence

The project design would be based on field data related to underground utilities, storm event rainfall quantities, stormwater runoff coefficients related to land use, and stormwater quality. The level of stormwater drainage service would improve from a 10-year, one hour event to a greater storm event to be determined pending pipe sizing.

Anticipated Number of Individuals Served Annually

2022 Population within the Affected Stormwater Drainage Area: 54,500

Anticipated Outcomes

- Reduced flooding complaints.
- Improved drainage collection and conveyance for more intense storm events.
- Improved stormwater quality.

E3K308 - APRA Stormwater		
Outcomes	Current	Post Project
Stormwater Level of Service	10- Yr., 1-Hr.	25-Yr., 1-Hr.
Stormwater Quality Total Nitrogen Total Phosphorus Total Suspended Solids	100% 100% 100%	50% reduction 25% reduction 80% reduction

Project [Identification Number]: E3K303

Total Funding amount: \$3,517,089

Annual Budgeted Funding: \$1,000,000

Anticipated Start Date:07/01/2022

Anticipated End Date:12/31/2024

Project Expenditure Category: EC- 5.5 – Other Wastewater

Leading Department: Public Works

Project overview: Sanitary Sewer System Expansion

Wastewater Treatment Plant #2 is currently at 80% of design capacity. It was built with the understanding that the sanitary sewer collection and conveyance system will be expanded to remove septic systems and accommodate future redevelopment areas, some of which are on septic disposal systems with leach fields. This would allow for new and redevelopment to be served by a comprehensive wastewater treatment system, with the goal of producing reuse irrigation water to offset potable water consumption. Plant #2 is located in the northeast area of the City and serves disadvantaged areas of the city in and around Cottonwood and White Lane. With the recent development of schools in the area this project is necessary for managing wastewater from homes, businesses, and industry. There is a significant need to expand the collection and conveyance system to the south.

This project would plan, design, permit and build a sanitary sewer collection and conveyance system expansion.

Use of Evidence:

The project design would be based on sophisticated wastewater flow modeling, land use, and build-out conditions for a 2,000 acre area around Cottonwood Drive and White Lane. The level of service would move from a septic disposal and leach field system to an integrated sanitary sewer collection and conveyance system.

Anticipated Number of Individual Served Annually:

2022 Population within the Expanded Sewer Service Area: 7,500
2030 Population within the Expanded Sewer Service Area: 22,000

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Increased wastewater flows to Plant #2.
- Reduced in-ground septic disposal systems and leach fields.
- Increased development including affordable housing, businesses, and service

E3K303 - APRA Wastewater Support		
Outcomes	2016 - 2020	2030
Plant Processing (gallons per day)	16 M	20 M
Collection & Conveyance Coverage Area (acres)	32,000	