

ADDITIONAL

ANOKA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

FOR THE NOVEMBER 24, 2020, COUNTY BOARD MEETING

9:30 A.M.

Anoka County Government Center - Anoka, MN

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) Items:

1. Consider offering businesses and nonprofits forced to close by Minnesota Executive Order 20-99 additional grant relief of up to \$30,000 through the Anoka County COVID Relief Grant Program. **See attached** action item worksheet.



ANOKA COUNTY BOARD ACTION ITEM

November 23, 2020

Anoka County Regional Economic Development

Jacquel Hajder

ACTION REQUESTED	Staff is requesting to offer business and nonprofits forced to close by Minnesota Executive Order 20-99 additional grant relief through the COVID Relief Grant program. Staff is requesting to offer up to \$30,000 in relief to these businesses and nonprofits. Applicants will need to provide proof additional expenses in order to receive the additional relief.
BACKGROUND	<p>On July 28, 2020, the Anoka County Board approved the CRF Business and Non-Profit Relief Grant guidelines which defined the businesses and non-profits eligible for the relief grants and how grant funds could be utilized. The county has been working with two grant administrators to review all applications received and disperse relief checks to over 250 businesses and over 60 nonprofits. With the current applications closing in for review, staff predicts a remainder of \$200,000 in Cares funding for nonprofits, and \$700,000 for businesses.</p> <p>On November 18, 2020 Minnesota Governor's established Executive Order 20-99 impacting restaurants, bars, gyms, theaters, museums and sports related clubs. Many of these organizations that have been directly impacted more than once by previous executive orders since the pandemic began on March 1, 2020.</p>
SOLUTIONS	<p>Staff has have identified 67 businesses and 16 nonprofits impacted by Executive Order 20-99 that could potentially increase the relief they have received. These organizations could receive up to \$30,000 in total relief to help with the impacts of the latest executive order and COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>First and second round applicants were eligible for up to \$20,000 in relief and will need to provide proof of an additional \$10,000 worth of eligible expenses to receive the additional assistance. Third round applicants were eligible for up to \$10,000 in relief and will need to provide proof of an additional \$20,000 worth of eligible expenses to receive the additional assistance.</p>
CONCLUSION	Based off the historical response rate for this program, we predict that 75% of the 83 organizations will provide proof of additional expenses. This would amount to an additional \$172,500 for nonprofit relief, \$615,000 for businesses. The County would still be within the \$5,000,000 Care Act limit set aside for businesses and \$1,000,000 set aside for nonprofits. Staff has until November 30, 2020 to issue checks to identified organizations that can provide proof of eligible expenses.
RECOMMENDATIONS	Staff recommends the County Board proceed with offering these identified businesses and nonprofits additional relief through the existing COVID Relief Grant program if they submit proof of expenses within our needed deadline to process the grants.