



TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: STACEY NELL, TOWN CLERK
DIANE MCBRIDE, ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER
RE: DISCRETIONARY FUND REQUESTS FOR BUDGET YEAR 2024
DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

Summary & Background: On an annual basis, the Town of Frisco considers requests for in-kind services and up-to \$5,000 grants through the Summit County common grant application. Applicants must be tax exempt under the provisions of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This year, the Town received 57 applications for these micro grants and/or in-kind services.

New for 2024, the Town of Frisco also implemented the Frisco Community Impact Grant Program. The purpose of this change was to create a formal, annual process for evaluating worthwhile Frisco investments in non-profit projects that support the Town's goals and that can be evaluated within the budget process. These are significant grants for non-profits which have programs that will have an exceptional impact on the Frisco community, and therefore, require a higher level of support.

- Non-profits could request between \$25,000 and \$100,000 through the Frisco Community Impact Grant Program.
- Non-profits could apply for both the annual countywide \$5,000 micro grant process and the Frisco Community Impact Grant.
- Grants are based on impact on the Frisco community, a clear statement of intent, and past efficacy of the applicant organization, as well as available budget.

These grants are intended to encourage significant progress on and support for the Town's strategic objectives: Community Inclusivity, Thriving Economy, Vibrant Culture, Arts, and Recreation and Quality Core Services. The Town received eight (8) applications for these Community Impact Grants.

Staff (Vanessa Agee, Jessica Dastous, Leslie Edwards, Diane McBride and Stacey Nell) and a Council subcommittee (Lisa Holenko and Elizabeth Skrzypczak-Adrian) reviewed all applications and will present funding recommendations to Council during the September 26, 2023, work session.

Analysis: The following criteria were considered when reviewing all non-profit applications:

- To what degree does the non-profit's vision and mission align with the Town of Frisco's strategic objectives?
- To what degree does the non-profit's work have a significant and positive impact on Frisco and Summit County residents?
- Does the organization have strong and stable leadership and sound fiscal health and practices?
- How well does the organization understand the community's needs and meet them with a clear vision, mission, and plan to achieve measurable results for the Frisco and Summit County communities?

Eleven (11) criteria were used to rate each of the applications, with each criteria given a score of 0-5. A total of 55 points were possible for each application.

Budget parameters were also considered throughout the process. In 2023, a total of \$117,050 was awarded in cash grants, and nearly \$20,000 for in-kind services. During the 2023 budget process, Council recommended reducing this amount awarded in future years. Council also recommended creating a separate grant program for non-profits requesting more than \$5,000. This program became the Community Impact Grant Program. For 2024, staff recommended the following budgets:

- \$80,000 cash for the micro grants (maximum requested per non-profit is \$5,000)
- \$20,000 in-kind services
- \$100,000 for the Community Impact Grant Program

Micro Grants

The Town received 57 applications for micro cash grants and/or in-kind services. All applications were reviewed and rated per eleven (11) criteria. Based upon this review, the following are recommended:

- Fully funding 18 of the 57 organizations at their requested dollar amount.
- Partially funding six (6) of the 57 organizations at their requested dollar amount.
- Not funding twelve (12) of the 57 organizations as their requests do not meet the strategic priorities of the Council, their ratings were low, and/or their positive impact to Frisco and Summit County is not well demonstrated.
- Funding seven (7) youth sports organizations at \$1,000 each
- Funding four (4) new, start-up non-profits at \$500 each
- Awarding in-kind services to all organizations who applied for such in-kind services.

Total cash funding request is \$83,200, and total in-kind services funding request is \$28,622.

Community Impact Grants

The Town received eight (8) applications for the Community Impact Grants. All applications were reviewed and rated per eleven (11) criteria. Based upon this review, the following are recommended:

- Funding seven (7) of the eight (8) requests. One organization who did not receive funding through this program did receive \$5,000 through the micro grant program above.
- Prioritizing funding for one time asks and program/equipment specifics, not staffing expenses.

- Funding \$12,500 to Building Hope for the Sol Center
- Funding \$12,500 to the Family & Intercultural Resource Center for the Sol Center
- Funding \$10,000 to Café Food Rescue for expenses associated with their move into a new building.
- Funding \$10,000 to Search and Rescue for a new vehicle
- Funding \$50,000 to Summit County Preschool for capital improvements and ongoing maintenance. A request will also be included for the preschool to present to staff a five (5) year financial and strategic plan to assist them with budgeting.
- Funding \$5,000 to Treetop Advocacy for expenses associated with their move to Frisco.
- Funding \$1,000 to Summit Youth Hockey for the free Mini Mites Scholarship Program. This amount is consistent with the amounts granted above for the youth sports organizations.

Total cash funding request is \$101,000.

Financial Impact

Grants are included in the 2024 proposed budget:

- \$80,000 cash for the micro grants. Request is \$83,200
- \$20,000 in-kind services. Request is \$28,622
- \$100,000 for the Community Impact Grant Program. Request is \$101,000

Of the \$28,622 requested for in-kind services, \$9,956 is requested from the Marina Fund and \$18,666 is requested from the General Fund. These funds will be reimbursed from the grants fund to the appropriate accounts upon receipt of the gift certificates and usage of the facilities.

The additionally requested funds are reasonable and will be included in the 2024 proposed budget.

Alignment with Strategic Plan

The Frisco Town Council regularly revisits and updates the Town's Strategic Plan, which is intended to describe the long-term vision and mission for the Town of Frisco and identify high-priority goals, the actions to achieve those goals, and the timelines by which they intend the work to be completed. This Plan was updated in July 2023. The Strategic Priorities in this Plan served as a guiding document for reviewing and recommending all non-profit grant requests.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Council approve the recommendations above for both cash and in-kind service requests for 2024.

Reviews and Approvals:

- Leslie Edwards, Finance Director
- Diane McBride, Assistant Town Manager
- Tom Fisher, Town Manager

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Discretionary Funding 2024