Moscow City Council

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

www.ci.moscow.id.us

Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

Monday, August 15, 2022 **7:00 PM** **Council Chambers 206 E. Third St.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
PRESENT: Mayor Art Bettge, Sandra Kelly, Maureen Laflin, Hailey Lewis, Julia Parker, Gina Taruscio, Anne Zabala
STAFF: Mia Bautista, Cody Riddle, Jen Pfiffner, Alisa Anderson, David Schott, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Lewis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)**

   A. **Approval of Moscow City Council August 1, 2022 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins**

   B. **Disbursement Report July 2022 - Sarah Banks**

   Presentation of the Accounts Payable Report for the month ending July, 2022.

   ACTION: Approve and authorize the use of digital signatures to sign the Disbursements Report for the month of July 2022.

   C. **Mountain View Road / 6th Street Roundabout Landscaping - Bid Results - Scott Bontrager**

   The Mountain View Road / 6th Street Roundabout Landscaping project includes the installation of an irrigation system, plants, landscaping, and surface restoration on the center island of the new roundabout at the intersection of Mountain View Road and Sixth Street. The City asked the current contractor (Western Construction of Lewiston) constructing the roundabout as part of the Mountain View Sixth to Joseph project for a bid to install an irrigation system, plantings, and landscaping in the center of the roundabout. The landscaping project was designed by JUB Engineers with an Engineer's Estimate for construction of $48,081. Western Construction of Lewiston provided the City with a bid on 7/28/2022 for $49,925. A bid tabulation is included in the Committee packet. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on August 8, 2022 and recommended for approval.

   ACTION: Accept the bid from Western Construction of Lewiston, Inc., award the contract for $49,925, and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount.

   D. **Paradise Path Lighting Project: Conduit Installation Bid Results - Nate Suhr**

   The City requested a bid proposal for the conduit installation on the Paradise Pathway Lighting Project July 12, 2022. The bid for the project includes the installation of approximately two thousand six hundred (2600) feet of electrical conduit, seventeen (17) conduit sweeps, and seven (7) junction boxes along the Paradise Pathway between Main Street and Styner Avenue located in Moscow, Idaho. The Engineer's estimate for the project was $49,970.00. The City received one bid on July 29,2022 from Curry Incorporated. The bid received was in the amount of $49,990.50. A bid tabulation is included in the Committee packet. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on August 8, 2022 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Accept the bid from Curry, Inc., award the contract for $49,990.50, and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount.

E. Elk River Disposal Contract Proposal - Tim Davis

The City of Moscow has been approached by the City of Elk River regarding disposal of their waste through the Moscow Solid Waste Processing Facility. The City of Elk River waste is collected and then deposited at a centrally located compactor. Compactors consist of an enclosed larger container that are hauled with a roll-off truck, dumped and then returned. The City of Elk River produces approximately 200 tons of waste annually. Elk River is an outlying community located in northern Clearwater County and, as such, was dependent on Clearwater County Solid Waste Dept., located in Orofino, Idaho, for service. Clearwater County waste is hauled to the Asotin County landfill, located in Clarkston, WA., as Clearwater County holds a disposal contract with Asotin County. Due to Clearwater County's failing roll-off truck, Elk River's dissatisfaction with the services that they were receiving and Elk River's proximity to the Moscow Solid Waste Processing Facility, Elk River's mayor reached out to staff regarding the Moscow disposal option.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the Disposal Contract between the City of Elk River and the City of Moscow as presented.

Taruscio moved and Zabala seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Staff Recognition Report - Bill Belknap

Pfiffner brought Schott to the podium. At the Idaho Recreation and Parks annual conference Moscow was awarded the outstanding innovative program for the Heritage Tree Program. He spoke on the program and brought the Tree Commission up for the Mayor to present the award. Pfiffner the Idaho Recreation and Parks Association also received a nomination for David Schott from Dwight Curtis, former Parks and Recreation Director. The category was Professional Award for Facilities with outstanding service to City facilities and benefits to community. Schott was selected and the Mayor presented the award.

3. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

No appointments were offered.

4. Public Comment and Mayor's Response Period (limit 15 minutes)

Brenda Engles (Moscow) with Idaho Stars stated there is funding for child care facilities and the funding is being extending those in place and also start-up funds. Daycare owners should call Idaho Stars to help through the process. Idaho stars is under a block grant and is in charge of training for daycare providers.

Kent Salisbury (Moscow) visited Lewiston and gas $0.50 cheaper than Moscow. At most it should only $0.20-0.30 higher. He reported graffiti on Paradise Path.

Pierce Christianson (Moscow) helped organize the block party on the previous Saturday and thanked the Council for the permit. The block party went well with lots of food and music. He said it is good to see the community come together and include students.

5. **Amendment to Moscow City Code Title 11, Chapter 2-Bicycles, E-bikes, E-scooters, and E-boards, and Repeal of Title 11, Chapter 3-Bicycles (ACTION ITEM) - Cody Riddle / Mia Bautista**

   Staff will present an ordinance amending Title 11, Chapter 2 (Bicycles, E-Bikes, E-Scooters, and E-Boards) and repealing Title 11, Chapter 3 (Bicycles). Chapter 3, originally intended to regulate the licensing of bicycles, has been largely ineffective. The City will continue to offer a voluntary licensure program for interested residents. The amendment to Chapter 2 clarifies the ability of City Staff to tag and impound abandoned devices.

   PROPOSED ACTIONS: Adopt the proposed ordinance amending Title 11, Chapter 2 (Bicycles, E-Bikes, E-Scooters, and E-Boards) and repealing Title 11, Chapter 3 (Bicycles), or provide staff with further direction.

Riddle introduced the item as written above. The change won't result in a reduction in service and will have a volunteer license program. The Transportation Commission supported the repeal of the code section. The second change is a minor update regarding abandonment which adds the police ability to enforce the devices and when abandoned remove them immediately should they be unsafe such as obstructing the right-of-way.

Parker commented she is glad the licensing won't be required. Taruscio asked if, as a voluntary program, if there could be no charge. There is still administrative time to recover. Lewis heard there was an online stolen bike registration and thought perhaps there was another way to register and improve the program even more. Taruscio moved to adopt the proposed ordinance amending Title 11, Chapter 2 (Bicycles, E-Bikes, E-Scooters, and E-Boards) and repealing Title 11, Chapter 3 (Bicycles). Kelly seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

6. **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Small Business and Non-Profit COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program (ACTION ITEM) - Cody Riddle**

   On August 15, 2022, the ARPA Review Committee will present to City Council for consideration the final ARPA Grant Program applications which include new requests from five (5) non-profits and three (3) small businesses. These requests represent all complete applications received by the City prior to the closure of the program on June 24, 2022. The Review Committee determined three (3) of the applications are not eligible for funding based on criteria specified in the program Resolution. Information on each grant request and the supporting documentation is included in the attachments for this report.

   PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approval of the eligible new grant requests, denial of the ineligible requests, limiting all awards to the maximum amount as stated in Resolution No. 2022-11, and transfer of remaining ARPA funds to the Water Infrastructure program as stated in Resolution No. 2021-25; or provide staff with further direction.

Riddle introduced the item as written above adding the Council awarded $387,694 to date. The program was closed to new applications on June 24th with a balance of $362,306 left in the program. Council directed staff to return with the final new applications and those who sought funding beyond the maximum specified in the adopted resolution. For review are 5 non-profits, two of which were found ineligible by the review committee and 3 small businesses, one of which was found ineligible by the review committee. Riddle described the qualifications in the resolution and staff recommendations.

Parker feels Sojourner's Alliance is unique in their application as it was a new application to request additional funding. She also struggled with the Humane Society application.

Hailey Noble, Executive Director of Latah Historical Society, stressed the importance of heritage organizations, especially as history is being questioned recently. Events have been postponed since 2019 and would like to reinstate them. The Historical Society would fall under the educational category and plan to host workshops and public lectures on art and history. Kelly confirmed events that were not held and that they go out into the surrounding county schools. Noble described events at the McConnell Mansion. Lewis said it is hard to talk about expansion of programs when you are trying to get back existing programs.

Taruscio expressed her feelings that everyone is dealing with the same challenges. She is hesitant to push boundaries of interpretations that creates wiggle room for those already funded. Council gave staff the duty to review the applications and she feels they do a great job and believe in their recommendation. Lewis is uncomfortable with how much the applicants have to provide. She is having a hard time with the program but in trying to honor what the program is trying to do will make a case for some of the applications. Lewis believes the Council should use the discretion allowed in the resolution. Bettge reiterated the program is to help non-profits and small businesses that were affected by COVID.

Parker moved to grant Latah Historical Society funding in the amount of $20,000. Lewis seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Four (4). Nays: Two (Taruscio, Zabala). Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Kelly recused herself from the Humane Society discussion and any possible motion/vote as she is a non-voting member on the Humane Society board. Lewis asked for confirmation the City provides funding to the Humane Society. Staff confirmed the amount is just under $55,000. Taruscio supports and feels the Humane Society is very important, but feels the application does not meet the criteria. Laflin said she also loves animals but agrees it does not qualify as the resolution is written currently. Lewis said the application is a wider scope of the four categories but feels it does quality, especially since they are also filling the gap that Whitman County doesn't cover.

Lewis moved to grant funding to Humane Society in the amount of $10,000. Parker seconded. Zabala appreciated the discussion but felt the criteria were not met. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Two (Parker, Lewis). Nays: Three (Taruscio, Zabala, Laflin). Abstentions: One (Kelly). Motion failed.

Andy Severson, owner of Stax, said he purchased the business in 2019 and immediately invested $20,000. He feels that affects the calculations in his application as it doesn't show the capital investment. He believes restaurants didn't feel the impact of COVID until 2021 when the supply chain became difficult. He explained between 2020 and 2021 expenses went up by 33% and net income went down by 36%. He put 48% of his income towards expenses. For his business, 2019 versus pandemic years is not a good reflection of the loss he incurred.

Lewis stated staff did all they could with the criteria in the resolution for this application and she feels liberties should be taken with this application. She would like to see Stax receive $15,000. Taruscio heard the explanation and supported small businesses, including Stax, during the pandemic. She would love to take liberties with the entire program but staff weighed each application the same way and she doesn't feel exceptions should be taken.

Severson commented that he didn't need to see the money he makes to see the effect to the business. After speaking with staff who encouraged him to apply, he spent numerous hours crunching numbers and providing information even though he knew he didn't meet the 25% criteria. He felt there was a level of inaccuracy and that he was lied to by City staff because he was told the 25% was just a guideline.

Lewis felt staff saying that it is a guideline reiterates that Council has discretion because each application is not a black and white issue. Lewis moved to grant Stax funding in the amount of $15,000. Kelly seconded. Laflin appreciated Severson's explanation. She is concerned that previous applications may have been denied because the 25% loss requirement was not met. Kelly agrees it is not black and white but she can see the difference between 2019 and 2021. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

With no questions for Connie Rosendahl, owner of Sisters Cookie Company, Taruscio moved to grant Sisters Cookie Company funding in the amount of $15,000. Laflin seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Taruscio said Kamiak Coffee Company is local and plan to stay local. She moved to approve funding Kamiak Coffee Company in the amount of $15,000. Lewis seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Jennifer Wallace, Executive Director of Palouse Habitat for Humanity, said they are building another house and have broke ground. Laflin moved and Zabala seconded to grant Palouse Habitat for Humanity funding in the amount of $25,000. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Nils Peterson, Moscow Affordable Housing Trust, said the application was complicated due to the different fiscal years and timing of grants. After applying to many grants, it was determined they would not receive them. If approved, the ARPA grant funds would go towards parking for the house. Taruscio said the Trust makes a difference and is easy to fund. She moved to grant funding in the amount of $25,000. Laflin seconded. Zabala recused herself from the discussion and possible motion/vote as she is on the Trust board. Lewis asked for information on their outreach for affordable housing for seniors. Peterson responded that low income spans a lot of age groups and they do not market one group. The current house is one level and ADA accessible so a senior could be a potential buyer. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Five (5). Nays: None. Abstentions: One (Zabala). Motion carried.

Beau Mosman, Executive Director of Backyard Harvest, said the organization gathers and gleans fruits and vegetables from private citizens, farms, etc. and give to food banks. They also have a program where people with snap benefits can attend the Farmers Market and exchange EBT money to spend at the market. Last year the Idaho Farmers Market Association and Washington Dept of Health doubled the amount of EBT money and has now been gone back to equal exchange. Currently, more people are using the program and inflation is limiting how far a dollar goes. Taruscio moved to grant Backyard Harvest funding in the amount of $25,000. Laflin seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Cliff MacAleer, Sojourner's Alliance, thanked the Council for the previous awarded $25,000. They only applied for $25,000 on the last application because that was the limit. The previous award went to remodeling the basement and adding additional beds to the transitional program. The Alliance has received funding from Latah County but they are still in need of additional funding.

Kelly said she appreciates and believes in what Sojourners does. She wants to stick with the $25,000 as that was the spirit of the program and haven't granted more to others. Laflin asked for clarification on the spending with two possible grants. MacAleer said there is a need for a camera system in the basement, operating on double duty for staffing, and also furnishings. Laflin doesn't feel additional funding should go towards something that is an ongoing expense. Parker feels this money is here to pass through to non-profits and is happy to exceed the $25,000 limit. Lewis asked about the Hillcrest Motel. McAleer responded that it was used for transitional housing and is now not available, which is a reason for the extra beds in the current facility. Taruscio commented the program was created to grant monies to deserving businesses/non-profits and frame work was designed. Council responsibility is to make sure it goes to the right organizations and have the maximum impact with the money. She appreciates Sojourners and what they do but is not convinced this extra amount of money wouldn't be better invested into water infrastructure to benefit all citizens.

Parker moved to grant Sojourner's Alliance additional funding in the amount of $15,000. Lewis seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Four (Parker, Lewis, Laflin, Zabala). Nays: Two (Taruscio, Kelly). Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding Backyard Harvest requesting $27,400 and granted $25,000. Mayor Bettge said the vote was taken and he will not entertain a motion to discuss again. Taruscio commented that she specifically made the motion at $25,000 because it was within the structure of the program. Mayor Bettge added that any unused monies according to the program would be rolled over to the water fund, which would benefit all citizens in Moscow. Riddle informed the Council that with the approved funding, the remaining balance is $207,306.

Casey Dail, licensed professional counselor at Life Bridge and specializes in trauma. Life Bridge is not a political organization and is not requesting money for advocacy. If approved, the monies would only go towards the cost of counseling. The organization works with all ages and offers counseling at a reduced price. She said COVID has ignited the underlying issues that have been dormant in some people. They do not reject anyone who can't pay but uses a sliding scale in cost. She believes there is a value in paying something. Taruscio moved to grant Palouse Care network/Life Bridge additional funding in the amount of $17,000. Kelly seconded.

Zabala asked how Life Bridge separates religious views from counseling. Dail said one of leading ways to find meaning and feeling is to find a meaning in life and that can be spiritual. Life Bridge's core philosophy is each of us know what we need, we just need someone to walk with them. Life Bridge assists people to learn what someone needs. Zabala said she does not support the grant as her interactions has been political and feels the funding already approved fits the specific piece to counseling.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Three (Laflin, Kelly, Taruscio). Nays: Three (Zabala, Parker, Lewis). Abstentions: None. The Mayor voted nay to break the tie. Motion failed.

Autumn Avery, Executive Director of Family Promise of the Palouse, thanked the Council for the previous $25,000. Expanded services include homeless prevention in addition to the shelter, a home start program, and hope to introduce a day program this fall.

Taruscio reiterated the best impact of the remaining funds be placed in the water capital fund because that serves the largest number of people and the maximum impact. Laflin asked for confirmation on the hotel shelter portion. Avery said they can currently serve four families but have need for more. On average, there are 10 families through the shelter during one year. If approved, the funding would go to renovations and the day program, which is for individuals, not just families.

Parker moved to grant Family Promise an additional $25,000 towards their shelter program and day program. Laflin seconded.

Riddle answered Lewis' question that the original ARPA funds did include $3,628,399 to water infrastructure and described the projects which totaled $4.8 million at the time. Bettge added details about some of the projects. Lewis said she agrees with Gina and that the remaining funds go to infrastructure. Kelly said she enjoys giving money to the non-profits and businesses. She knows that maximum was $15,000 and $25,000 and feels the limit has been reached. She will vote no because going beyond that creates uncertainly and ambiguity. Zabala believes all the members have different philosophies of the program and one size doesn't fit all. She believes supporting the maximum impact for those organizations that provide the greatest benefit to the community and prevent the city from spending resources on services.

Lewis explained that she voted yes on Sojourners additional funding so will vote yes on this additional funding.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Four (Parker, Lewis, Laflin, Zabala). Nays: Two (Taruscio, Kelly). Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Darrel Keim, Latah Recovery Center, said the funding is for the Oxford House. He detailed the process for the request. If awarded, the money would go towards to the $200,000 mortgage and then rent would be used to buy another house, but would be a female house.

Zabala feels the monies were allocated for grants and would like it spent for those things that can be most affected. Zabala moved to grant Latah Recovery Center additional funding in the amount of $175,000. Parker seconded. Taruscio reiterated the best impact of the remaining funds be placed in the water capital fund because that serves the largest number of people and the maximum impact.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Three (Parker, Zabala, Laflin). Nays: Three (Lewis, Taruscio, Kelly). Abstentions: None. The Mayor voted nay to break the tie. Motion failed.

Lewis moved to grant Latah Recovery Center additional funding in the amount of $25,000. Parker seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Three (Laflin, Parker, Lewis). Nays: Three (Zabala, Taruscio, Kelly). Abstentions: None. The Mayor voted nay to break the tie. Motion failed.

Zabala moved to grant Latah Recovery Center additional funding in the amount of $100,000. Parker seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Three (Zabala, Parker, Laflin). Nays: Three (Lewis, Taruscio, Kelly). Abstentions: None. The Mayor voted nay to break the tie. Motion failed.

Roger Rowley, Executive Director of Moscow Contemporary, thanked the Council for the initial $25,000. The monies were used to increase the education coordinator from half-time to full-time. With the departure of the employee, the monies have also gone towards advertising the full-time position. Rowley said if approved, the additional ARPA funds would go towards the addition of a half-time position to help get programs up and going.

Taruscio reiterated the best impact of the remaining funds be placed in the water capital fund because that serves the largest number of people and the maximum impact. Laflin doesn't feel funds should go above the original $25,000 and be used for employee salaries. Rowley responded that the additional funds was a jump start until they have other funding.

Lewis moved to grant Moscow Contemporary additional funding in the amount of $25,000. Parker seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Three (Parker, Lewis, Zabala). Nays: Three (Taruscio, Laflin, Kelly). Abstentions: None. The Mayor voted nay to break the tie. Motion failed.

Kelly stated she will abstain from a vote should a motion be made. Ms. Cook, Program Coordinator for Inland Oasis has kept their doors open because of the previous funded grant. Taruscio reiterated the best impact of the remaining funds be placed in the water capital fund because that serves the largest number of people and the maximum impact. Zabala feels the monies were set aside for grants and should be used for grants. In response to Council questions, Ms. Cook defined emergency expenses as a plumbing emergency or other unseen issues. Inland Oasis has seen use of the food pantry increase tremendously, approximately 60% over the last couple months and seeing less donations.

Lewis moved to grant Inland Oasis additional funding in the amount of $25,000. Parker seconded. Roll

Call Vote: Ayes: Three (Parker, Lewis, Zabala). Nays: Three (Taruscio, Laflin). Abstentions: One (Kelly). Motion passed.

Colin Mannex, Executive Director of the Kenworthy, gave appreciation for the previous grant. Additional funds would expand programs that are already in place, as well as back stage repairs and a reception space in the back, which will provide another source of revenue for sustainability of the Kenworthy. This will provide more opportunities for community engagement and educational art organizations. They rely on the funding from renting movies for funding programs. Parker moved to grant Kenworthy additional funding in the amount of $20,000. The motion died for the lack of a second.

Monique, Food Not Bombs, thanked the Council for the previous grant. Lewis moved to grant Food Not Bombs additional funding in the amount of $20,000. Zabala seconded. Taruscio reiterated the best impact of the remaining funds be placed in the water capital fund because that serves the largest number of people and the maximum impact. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Three (Zabala, Parker, Lewis). Nays: Three (Laflin, Kelly, Taruscio). Abstentions: None. The Mayor voted nay to break the tie. Motion failed.

Brad Rudley, Board Director at Moscow Day School, said they are a non-profit early childhood center and hope to open a waddler room which would have six children ages 1-2. If additional funding is given, the funds would go towards one-time equipment upgrades like fence, kitchen facilities, aging playground equipment, and tiles for the playground. The labor shortage is affecting them and in lieu of infrastructure, they are having to increase hourly pay in order to hire people. Parker moved to grant Moscow Day School additional funding in the amount of $17,000. Kelly said after discussion of the distress of daycares she seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Five (5). Nays: One (Taruscio). Abstentions: None. Motion passed.

Taruscio moved to direct the remaining $140,306 dollars to water capital fund. Lewis seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Four (4). Nays: Two (Zabala, Parker). Abstentions: None. Motion passed.

REPORTS

City Council

Famers Market Commission – Kelly reported they discussed the downtown street scape and incorporating different ideas.

Moscow Fire Volunteer Department – Kelly said they are working on protocols and training.

1912 Development Committee – Kelly said bids for the third floor are about to be published.

Moscow Arts Commission – Laflin said the Commission are getting people to sign up for judging selection panels, approved the next Third Street Gallery exhibits, and trying to get more people to apply for Artwalk.

Transportation Commission – Laflin said there was a presentation by Mark Story, Whitman County Public Works Director and a presentation on the streetscape project bike routes.

Moscow Urban Renewal Agency – Laflin said the Agency finally sold the last piece of property in Alturas.

Moscow Tree Commission – Taruscio reported the Commission decided the seedlings for Arbor Day will be Smooth Sumac for the next few years. The Black Walnut tree on Seventh Street was awarded the honor of heritage tree.

Mayor

The Mayor said he and his team placed last in the Mayor's Golf Tournament but received a trophy. Proceeds from the tournament were donated to the Moscow Food Bank. He attended the groundbreaking for the airport terminal project. In September the airport will go back to five flights to Boise. There will be a United flight to Denver when the terminal opens. The chamber of commerce auction is on August 26 and on the 27th, Northwest River Supply is celebrating their 50th anniversary.

Staff

No report.

ADJOURN

It was moved, seconded and mutually agreed upon to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.

Arthur D. Bettge, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk

CITY OF MOSCOW
INCORPORATED
JULY 12
1887
STATE OF IDAHO

IDAHO CHILD CARE (DAYCARE) GRANTS
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

Idaho Workforce Development Council Child Care Expansion Grant:

Child care is one of the most critical work supports for parents to successfully participate in the labor market. Since the pandemic, labor force participation rates in Idaho have decreased and one of the major factors is lack of child care options. According to Idaho's most recent Child Care Gap Assessment 74,670 children have the potential need for child care, and there are only 55,850 child care slots.

With a gap of nearly 20,000 child care seats in Idaho, there is a significant need to invest in Child Care Expansion Grants so that Idaho can continue to get back to work. This funding, administered by the Workforce Development Council, will increase the number of child care seats available to working families by targeting employers and/or child care providers willing to build new on-site or near-site child care facilities or expand existing facilities.

Applications are due: August 15, 2022, October 1, 2022, January 1, 2023

https://wdc.idaho.gov/child-care-expansion/

Phase 4 Grants Child Care:

The Idaho Child Care Grant: Phase 4 provides funding to cover operating expenses authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for childcare providers as they face less revenue and higher expenses during the pandemic, and to ensure they can remain open and caring for children. Eligible expenses include rent, utilities, supplies, payroll, as well as support for additional health and safety measures taken during the pandemic.

This is a non-competitive grant opportunity open to licensed and/or ICCP certified providers who have been providing full time, in-person childcare for at least 90 days prior to the opening of the application window. Eligible providers will receive a monthly award based on their submitted expenses or the grant maximum beginning in January 2022. Monthly awards will continue to be paid each month until the available funds are exhausted.

This is NOT a "first-come, first-served" grant opportunity. All eligible applicants will receive at least three-monthly award payments. Subsequent monthly awards will be issued depending on the volume of applications received and the availability of funding.

https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/providers/child-care-providers/child-care-grants

IdahoSTARS Safe Sleep, Nutrition and Physical Activity, and Business Practices

IdahoSTARS are continuing the Safe Sleep and Business Practices grants and adding Nutrition and Physical Activity grants through June 30, 2022. Contact your Region 2 office for more information.

IdahoSTARS Region 2 Support Team

Darla Amundson: IdahoSTARS Lead Consultant, **amundson@uidaho.edu**

Shayna Holloway: IdahoSTARS Health Consultant, **sholloway@uidaho.edu**

Erin Frye: Resource Specialist, **efrye@uidaho.edu**

Christina Kun: CDA Specialist, **christinak@uidaho.edu**

IdahoSTARS Training Office, **trainingoffice@idahostars.org**

IDAHO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

GOV. BRAD LITTLE LEADING IDAHO

Child Care Expansion Grants

Child care is one of the most critical work supports for parents to successfully participate in the labor market. Since the pandemic, labor force participation rates in Idaho have decreased and one of the major factors is lack of child care options. According to Idaho's most recent Child Care Gap Assessment 74,670 children have the potential need for child care, and there are only 55,850 child care slots (the full report can be found here: https://childcaregap.org/assets/onePagers/Idaho.pdf).

Child care needs exist throughout the State and long wait lists exist at most high-quality child care centers. According to the study, the top five counties with the largest gap between the number of children who potentially need care but whose families cannot reasonably access formal care are Canyon, Ada, Bonneville, Twin Falls, and Bingham. *See page four for a breakdown of needs by county.*

With a gap of nearly 20,000 child care seats in Idaho, there is a significant need to invest in Child Care Expansion Grants so that Idaho can continue to get back to work. This funding, administered by the Workforce Development Council, will increase the number of child care seats available to working families by targeting employers and/or child care providers willing to build new on-site or near-site child care facilities or expand existing facilities.

Program Highlights: An increase of approximately 1,000 child care seats statewide, by the end of 2024.

- Through a $15m grant program (utilizing one-time ARPA funding), these funds will provide infrastructure or operating grants for start-up or expansion of child care where there is a significant gap between the number of child care slots available and the number of children needing care.
- Idaho's child care capacity is **expanded** supporting families to return to work or their ability to receive training that will assist them in returning to work.
- Coordinated licensure process for grantees.

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare Programs		**Idaho Workforce Development Council Program**
Investments that Support Children and Working Families	Investments that Stabilize Child Care Provider Business Owners	Investments that Expand High-Quality Child Care Capacity
• Expanded eligibility criteria and lowered copay for families needing child care • Expanded mental health support and developmental screening for kids	• Child care provider support grants for existing operations. • Expanded support to after-school programs • Wage enhancement per worker • Expanded training and education for employees	• Grants to offset start-up costs for employers providing on-site/near-site child care • Grants to child care providers who are working with employer partners to expand number of children served • Support with recruiting and training staff

*Note: There is a separate budget recommendation for the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare to **sustain** current daycare facility operations.*

Who Can Apply:

- Employers and/or child care providers that are seeking to add or expand capacity in Idaho.

Grant Parameters:

- Applicants will complete and submit a business plan as part of the application process. Family/Group and Child Care Centers are eligible for the grants, when partnering with local employers and complying with local and state licensing requirements. Business plan guides can be found here: https://wdc.idaho.gov/child-care-guides/
  - Financial statements must show private investment of at least 50% of grant funds requested and a cash flow analysis showing when sustainability will be achieved.
  - A risk assessment focused on sustainability beyond the one-time investment of grant funds will be developed and utilized by a WDC Grant Review Committee comprised of Council members and subject matter experts.
- Applicants will be eligible for up to $15,000 per full-time seat in their start-up or expansion plan. Funds may be used to acquire and/or renovate buildings, purchase equipment, supplies and other items necessary for start-up, pay staffing and other operating costs until ongoing revenue is generated.
- A minimum of $4,000,000 will be set-aside in the first year for providers with less than 15 seats.
- Preference will be given to entities that will focus on evidence-based programming and services and have parent engagement activities.
- WDC contractual terms require:
  - Reimbursement for verified expenses.
  - Quarterly reports.
  - A requirement that the provider stay in business for at least one year beyond the end of the grant period or the Council may seek repayment of funds.

"Shovel Ready" Projects

Idaho Forest Group. Headquartered in Coeur d'Alene and several mill sites across the state, Idaho Forest Group is committed to their employees and has been looking into child care support options. Currently, IFG is working with local child care providers in two communities, exploring ways to help them increase capacity such as additional employees and site expansion. They are hopeful a model can be developed to replicate in other locations.

Kaniksu Health. As one of the larger employers in Bonner County, Kaniksu Health recognizes the importance of providing child care to recruit and retain employees. Following the closing of the community's largest child care center, Kaniksu is working to develop a child care center for their employees.

Meadows Valley School District. Meadows Valley School District is having severe challenges retaining teachers because there are no child care providers in the community. The district seeks to partner with a local entrepreneur to start a new family/in-home business to serve the community of 430.

Homedale School District. This past year, the Homedale School District purchased a building to serve as a child care center for district employees and the community. Funding for capital improvement is needed to refurbish the building to create an environment suitable to serve children in a healthy and safe environment.

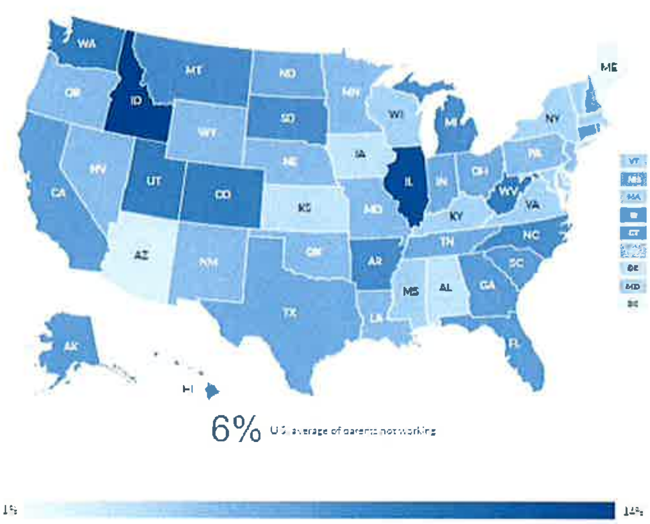
Advocates Against Family Violence. AAFV in Caldwell provides Hope, Help, and Crisis Care for Domestic Abuse Victims in Caldwell, Nampa, Meridian, Boise, and surrounding areas. Over 14,000 individual services were provided in 2021 with just over 1,000 of them involving temporary housing. The on-site Hope Lane Learning Center can only provide care to 27 full-time children and AAFV has long-term plans to double capacity on land they already own. With this grant program, they can begin the expansion immediately.

Joint Apprenticeship Training Centers. The JATC's are looking to partner with local child care providers in Pocatello, Boise and Coeur d'Alene/Post Falls to offer on or near-site child care for apprentices. Regular daycare hours don't typically support an apprentices' training schedule, preventing many interested individuals from pursuing careers in the trades.

Twin Falls. In partnership with CLIF Bar, the United Way of South Central Idaho wants to refurbish and expand a newly acquired facility to expand child care options for the regional business community. Funding for refurbishing and expansion is needed for the building to best serve working families.

Bonneville County. As one of the largest employees in Southeast Idaho, Idaho National Lab is exploring the feasibility of partnerships with local childcare facilities within the Idaho Falls community. INL is looking at several possible partnerships, one with Club Apple. Club Apple has land adjacent to their current facility and will start construction of a new daycare center in the spring of 2022. Within the parameters of this partnership, a certain number of spots will be held for INL employees and their children.

Lack of Child Care, School Closures Prevent Some Parents From Working



Source: ***Stateline*, an initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts**
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2022/02/24/parents-still-struggle-to-work-without-child-care

Alphabetical List of Counties

In Idaho:
74,670 children have the potential need for child care.
There is a supply of **55,850** child care slots.
The families of **20,910** children do not have access to child care.
Child care gap: **28%** of the potential need.
The long term economic impact ranges between **$695.4M** and **$1.1B**
Equating to between **$33,260** and **$50,720** per child care gap.

County	Child Care Gap	Gap Percentage
Ada County	2,050	10.10%
Adams County	60	84.50%
Bannock County	1,010	25%
Bear Lake County	200	64.60%
Benewah County	240	60%
Bingham County	1,170	46.60%
Blaine County	640	56.70%
Boise County	43	46.20%
Bonner County	280	24.10%
Bonneville County	1,750	31.80%
Boundary County	120	60.60%
Butte County	53	100%
Camas County	25	100%
Canyon County	3,450	33.50%
Caribou County	130	54%
Cassia County	720	56.50%
Clark County	40	100%
Clearwater County	9	5%
Custer County	78	100%
Elmore County	240	20.40%
Franklin County	390	70.40%
Fremont County	380	86.10%

County	Child Care Gap	Gap Percentage
Gem County	230	38.70%
Gooding County	490	70.60%
Idaho County	200	36.30%
Jefferson County	1,040	66%
Jerome County	510	39.70%
Kootenai County	58	0.90%
Latah County	290	23.70%
Lemhi County	94	36%
Lewis County	67	37.40%
Lincoln County	81	71.60%
Madison County	1,120	69.20%
Minidoka County	450	45.90%
Nez Perce County	330	17%
Oneida County	64	47%
Owyhee County	280	59.30%
Payette County	79	9.80%
Power County	120	59.50%
Shoshone County	65	17%
Teton County	380	66.20%
Twin Falls County	1,390	32.60%
Valley County	320	76.40%
Washington County	200	49.30%

Child Care Expansion Grant Policy
Adopted June 8, 2022

Purpose

The Idaho Workforce Development Council ("Council") has determined that it is in the best interest of the state to provide high quality child care in Idaho and shall provide grants to eligible child care providers as outlined below. The purpose of the fund is to encourage and enable businesses and employer consortiums to create and develop on-site, or near-site child care centers or partner with local and regional child care services to increase available slots for an employer's employees (not at the expense of existing or available slots in the local area).

Eligibility

An entity is eligible for the grant if it will directly provide high quality child care in Idaho and meets all of the criteria in this section.

- The entity must be authorized to conduct business in Idaho and in good standing with the Idaho Secretary of State along with any other applicable state or local government organizations, and must comply with all federal, state, or local requirements.
- An entity may be any of the following:
  - For profit child care providers;
  - Nonprofit/not for profit child care providers; and
  - Employers (which shall include public and private entities).
- The entity must partner with employers to increase or expand child care capacity. Examples of employer partnership may include:
  - Monetary contributions or donations/support of in-kind services necessary for the operation of the program (see examples in the Definition section below);
  - Guarantee to sponsor slots on behalf of employers' employees;
  - Co-op/collaborative/coordinated enrollment model across multiple centers (not necessarily owned by the same entity) in one "system" to provide access to employees of the partners; or
  - Other partnership arrangements, as approved by the Council.
- Must comply with local and state child care licensing requirements.
- Provide at least 50% cash and/or in-kind match.
- Show evidence through a business plan, or equivalent, that operations will be sustainable beyond the one-time investment of these grant monies. Examples can be found at https://wdc.idaho.gov/child-care-guides/.
- Provide care to children ages 13 years and younger. Provider does not have to serve all age ranges between 0 to 13 and may serve any age range between the ages of 0-13; however, program funds cannot be used to support children over the age of 13. An exception will be made for providers serving children with disabilities who are 14-18. Preference will be provided to applicants who are serving infants and toddlers.
- Preference will be provided to applicants who are serving communities with higher need based on data found at: https://childcaregap.org/assets/onePagers/Idaho.pdf.

Exclusions

- Funds shall not support private school tuition or home schooling.
- Funds cannot be used for directly to service debt, satisfy a judgment or settlement, or contribute to a "rainy day" fund.
- Funds cannot be used as a tax offset.
- Funds cannot be used to match other federal resources.

Fund Availability

The Workforce Development Council has $15 million dollars under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to expand high quality child care in Idaho. $4 million dollars is set aside until March 1, 2023, for small providers serving 12 or fewer children. All funds must be obligated by June 30, 2023 and spent by October 31, 2024.

- Maximum of $15,000 per child served is available to applicants to support the addition of new seats.
- 50% minimum cash and/or in-kind match is required. In-kind match must be calculated at fair market value. Applications may score higher if additional match is provided.
- The Child Care Expansion Grant Review Committee shall develop a rubric to use in scoring proposals.

Applications

Applicants must provide at a minimum:

- Proof that eligibility requirements have been met.
- A business plan (example found at https://wdc.idaho.gov/child-care-guides/) showing that the entity will meet all state and/or local licensing (including background checks), insurance, facility, programming, and a plan for sustainability beyond the one-time grant funding period.
- Description of partnership with employer(s).
- Detailed budget, budget narrative, and cashflow analysis for at least three years.
- Preference will be given to entities that focus on evidence-based programming and services and have parent engagement activities (see "High Quality Child Care" in the Definition section below). This includes the provision of training and ongoing professional development of staff.

Reimbursable Expenditures

- Acquisition and/or renovation of buildings (any project that exceeds $1M in capital expenditures requires additional written justification under the ARPA program)
- Rent
- Equipment
- Supplies
- Learning materials
- Staffing costs (including licensing and professional development)
- Other reasonable operating costs aligned to the business plan

Contractual Terms

- Grantee must sign the grant agreement, after being selected for receipt of grant funds, and prior to receiving the grant funds.

- Grant term is one year.
- Grantees are required to submit quarterly reports during performance period, as delineated in the grant contract, and provide an update on facility operations two years after contract end date.
- Funds are made on a reimbursement basis for verified expenses only.
- The entity must stay in business for at least one year after the end of the grant period, or the Council may seek repayment of grant funds.
- Additional federal pass-through requirements including, but not limited to:
  - Active registration in the System for Award Management (https://www.sam.gov);
  - Compliance with Uniform Guidance including 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E regarding Cost Principles;
  - Single Audit Act (requires an audit for entities that expend more than $750,000 in Federal awards during a fiscal year); and
  - Civil Rights Compliance – must meet legal requirements relating to nondiscrimination and nondiscriminatory use of Federal funds. The requirements include ensuring that entities receiving assistance do not deny benefits or services, or otherwise discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), disability, age, or sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity).

Performance Metrics

The return on investment is measured by the total number of child care seats available two years after grant-funded entity's contract end date.

Definitions

High Quality Child Care – The quality of care will be evaluated based on the Idaho STARS framework found at https://idahostars.org/Child-Care-Providers/Steps-to-Quality. A review of the child care incident history for existing providers will be conducted.

Provider – An entity that provides care and supervision compensation during part of a twenty-four (24) hour day, for a child or children, in a place other than the child's/children's own home. This does not exclude family or group child care provider types.

Employer Partnership Donations/Support – Examples:

- Offer of benefits (partial child care costs covered etc.) to employees who select employer-partnered child care provider.
- Employer/parent time donation for child care center needs (classroom volunteers, clean up days, stock food pantry etc.).
- Committed service days for center.
- Transportation services.
- Assist with child care provider employee licensing costs.

In-Kind Match – Refer to template.

Idaho Child Care Expansion Grants - In-Kind Description & Tracking								
Entity Name								
Address								
Name of Contact Person								
Contact's Email								
Contact's Phone								
In-Kind Tracking	Description	Total In-Kind Pledged to Project	Q1 In-Kind Received	Q2 In-Kind Received	Q3 In-Kind Received	Q4 In-Kind Received	Total In-Kind Received	Balance Remaining
Facilities Donation								$ -
Equipment Donation								$ -
Materials/Supplies Donations								$ -
Marketing/Outreach Support								$ -
Accounting Support								$ -
Legal Support								$ -
IT/Software Donations and Support								$ -
Staff Professional Development								$ -
Center Personnel/Fringe								$ -
Other Professional or Technical Support: Please Specify								$ -
Other: Please Specify								$ -
TOTALS		$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE
DIVISION OF SELF-RELIANCE

Phase 4:
Idaho Child Care Grant

Applications Accepted:

July 1 – July 15, 2022

October 1 - 15, 2022

January 1 - 15, 2023

How to Apply:

1. Log into your RISE account via IdahoSTARS: rise.idahostars.org
2. Go to the "Quality Improvement" tab of your facility profile
3. Apply for the Phase 4: Idaho Child Care Grant

The Idaho Child Care Grant: Phase 4 provides funding for child care providers in Idaho to ensure they are able to remain open and caring for children.

Eligible expenses include

- Rent
- Utilities
- Supplies
- Payroll
- Support for health and safety measures taken during the pandemic

Eligible providers

This grant is available for licensed and/or ICCP certified child care providers who are open and providing child care. If you received any other phase of this grant, you may still be eligible for this fourth grant.