

## May 7, 2024, FY2025 Budget Workshop Questions

1. MY: How can we find economies of scale/efficiencies across authorities to enhance cleaning services?

**With respect to Corridor Improvement Areas (CIAs), several have been using non-CIA funds provided to them by the City in previous years to provide support for emptying garbage cans and other clean-up activities. Those additional city funds were non-recurring and provided for a variety of reasons and will expire in the short term.**

**CIAs generally receive their funds from an increment of taxes; the authorizing state legislation clearly defines what those funds may be used for, which list does not include maintenance activities like emptying garbage cans that have been installed by the CIAs as part of their corridor improvements. The CIAs have managed this by using those City-provided funds and other donations that they could use for maintenance. For FY25, the CIAs that previously contracted with the 61<sup>st</sup> District Court will identify other service providers to empty trash cans and have sufficient resources available for next FY. We can support the CIA managers and CIA boards in identifying and pursuing, through their efforts, those funds for the corridors that have unique garbage cans that will need continued support to manage. See also the response to #4 below.**

**Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), are in a slightly different posture under state law, and may use some of their funds for enhanced services, like garbage collection. The City has 2 BIDs – the Downtown Improvement District and the Uptown BID (which encompasses East Fulton, Wealthy Street, East Hills and Easttown).**

**The City refuse program does include a focus on corridor clean-up. This has been focused on providing support for the City's excess personal property ordinance, adopted in Summer of 2023. We will work with business corridors experiencing challenges of property accumulation.**

2. JO: Appreciates efforts to have wheeled trash cans out at bus stops, etc. Questioning whether the Court's budget can be reduced in order to offset the cost of contracting (with non-profit) to service additional DASH and bus stop locations?

**MobileGR has a contract with Next Step of West Michigan for cleaning DASH and bus stop locations which are funded by the Parking Services fund. This service has never been contracted by the Court work crews.**

**The Court doesn't currently have the capacity to reduce their budget and maintain existing service levels. They have discontinued the work crews that previously did this work. Discontinuing that program was done in order to achieve savings for the District Court, which lowered the general fund subsidy by the cost of the work crews. If the City were to lower the general fund subsidy further, the fund would run a deficit.**

**Code Compliance recently secured a contract with Next Step of West Michigan for nuisance yard/trash clean up and hazard securing cases to replace the Court work crew. There is a slight increase in the hourly rate (approximately \$16) from that charged by the Courts. Staff have been training the new vendor and a few test cases have been completed. It is anticipated that efficiency in work completion will improve as experience is gained, likely resulting in comparable charges.**

3. JO: Have we considered a nominal fee for DASH riders?

**No we have not discussed charging riders for the downtown area shuttle previously. See response to question 5 below for future opportunities to consider DASH route and funding structure.**

4. RB: What would it cost to enhance cleaning in our business corridors? JO: Can we add funding for cleaning around MDOT infrastructure, which other communities have done? (Policy consideration re: BID-type services, expansion).(Hurt/Gorney)

**Public Works and Economic Development will be reviewing the current state of cleanliness services in each business district with the goal of developing future state options to enhance these services across the City. Developing costs associated with corridor cleaning in each business district will take some time and staff will return during the Materials Management presentation this summer with options for varying service levels and proposed costs. MDOT freeway and on/off ramp cleaning services will also be included in these service levels and cost estimates.**

**See question #1 for cost of corridor clean up.**

5. DR: Also appreciated DASH expansion. Thinks it would be worth considering the original need and goal for DASH ridership, outcomes in terms of who is using and finding it effective. Are residents, commuters, visitors, finding it useful? Request for demographic statistics of DASH users.

**A DASH ridership survey was done in 2022, which informed some of the route changes that were implemented in 2023. We will be conducting a new downtown commuter survey over the summer (2024) and plan to utilize the data to inform future decisions regarding DASH, parking programs, car share, and other mobility programs.**

6. LK: Speaking with Clean Fuels Michigan. Is the Grants Position (Stevie Parcell) looking into funding (grants) to expand DASH or for environmental justice in our communities?

**Yes. We are currently researching a grant program called “Communities Taking Charge Accelerator Grant” in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which may provide opportunities around green equitable electrification network and carshare programs. We are looking for other opportunities as well.**

7. LK: Special Events: how much are we looking at funding to put toward the cost of putting on the various Special Events? How are we funding? Giving more to one? Looking at smaller organizations – how are we sustaining to keep them moving forward?

**We have a community rate and a commercial rate. The community rate is 50% lower than the commercial rate and there is no recommended change for FY2025. The community rate is significantly subsidized (~\$349,000 in value to organizers in FY23). Any community event is eligible for the community rate, so there is no differentiation on the City's part as to size of the organization.**

**Neighborhood park rentals are typically \$500 for the commercial rate and \$125 for the community rate. For recurring events, like Park Parties, Tuesday Night Swing, etc. the site rental fee is only charged one time, not for every occurrence.**

**<https://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/Directory/Guides/Special-Event-Planning-and-Resource-Guide#section-7>.**

**The ARPA-funded Special Event Sponsorship Program launched in FY22 and provided discretionary cash sponsorships to community events on an application basis. This program can no longer be funded by ARPA and is proposed to be discontinued. A list of the award recipients and amounts for FY24 is included as an attachment for reference. See Attachment A.**

8. LK: DDA – looking at how much money given them vs. investing in 3rd Ward. Where can we shift some funding to support other areas of the City/build up the Third Ward? RB: Legal parameters as to where we can spend “captured” DDA revenue. Bound by these legal parameters. Business Districts not in an Authority also want and deserve enhanced cleaning and other services. Shouldn't need to be located in a BID to have those services available. JO: How much would it cost to take this on?

**We can't use funding from the DDA because it is designated tax for a specific use in the boundaries of that authority.**

**See question #1 for cost of corridor clean up.**

9. RB: Special Events – what is it actually going to look like for an individual that wants to plan an event next year? How will it be different from last year? After adoption of this budget, will an organizer be impacted differently than now (overall impact on customers)? KP: Who would be impacted, in what way, to what extent? What does it mean that we can't squeeze police and traffic safety costs? RB/KP also wants consideration of Parks fees and other departments' costs. Need more background and contextual information on the options listed on Slide 19.

**The community event rate is not changing for FY25. The community rate is half of the commercial rate for city services and & 75% of the site rental fee. Fixed City costs are not changing for event organizers in Fiscal Year 2025 as compared to previous years.**

**Fixed costs include permit application fee, event permit, basic street closure, equipment rental, venue rental and impact fees. Variable costs (costs based on actual hours/labor) include OSE labor, Police, Traffic Safety, Refuse Service, and Fire.**

**As compared to FY23 and FY24, some community events will not receive the same cash sponsorship contribution in FY25 due to expiration of the ARPA-funded Special Event Sponsorship Program (list attached). Commercial events have not been eligible for the SESP.**

**Police and Traffic Safety costs are based on the actual cost of service and were not/have not been discounted in previous discussion and approval of rates. This is most often a concern for events that require significant street closures and traffic/pedestrian management. Billed Police costs were \$169,409 and Traffic Safety costs were \$61,833 in FY23. These have been based on identified public safety needs and we do not believe it prudent to reduce the level of service required to ensure safety for our residents and visitors. Reducing those costs to organizers would shift the cost to the GOF and Parking Fund, respectively, and largely benefit ticketed, for-profit events and road races (Festival of the Arts being the one notable exception). We have, however, allowed organizers to arrange for third-party security onsite as a possible cost reduction measure.**

**See Attachment A for organizations that were part of the ARPA funded Special Events Sponsorship Program in FY24.**

10. BG: OEE is not staffed sufficiently for the type of work that is necessary for the City (per Slide 9, one Business Manager). Is there an opportunity when hiring a special advocate for 3rd Ward development to also provide some seed money for R&D efforts (\$250,000)? Can we add a position to OEE to help with 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward development for R&D effort?

**While the departments remain distinct, over the last several months OEE and OPA have been managed by a single director in an interim role. The City Manager is evaluating whether to continue to operate with this management structure on a temporary or permanent basis in order to create the opportunity to repurpose the Equity Director position and use those funds to provide general fund support to continue the great work being performed by a grant funded Equity Analyst (once the grant expires). The remainder of those funds could be used to hire a temporary employee to serve as a special advocate working to increase development opportunities in the City's Third Ward.**

11. BG: Mathletes program mentioned. Can we find ways to further increase the funding for these types of youth activities and programs?

**Most out-of-school time (OST) program providers seek sustainable funding, including programs led by Our Community's Children. This is always a challenge for nonprofits, particularly small, community-based organizations. Some local foundations and the Heart of West Michigan United Way support such programs and may be a source of**

**funding. However, foundation support often is for limited time periods of not more than three years.**

**The Governor's FY25 budget included \$50 million in on-going funding with additional funding for OST programs across the state. Eight of our Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) OST providers received 2023-2024 Michigan Department of Education (MDE) OST grants. Information about this grant program and local awards can be found here: [Public Act 103 of 2023](#), Section 32n [2023-2024 32n Grant Sub-Awardees](#).**

12. BG: How can we get transformational projects into the 3rd Ward itself? Opportunities to redistribute resources?

**The City has a number of ways that projects are supported or incentivized throughout the City, including the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward. Some of these are smaller-scale projects that add housing units or minor business upgrades or support, and some are intended to spark transformation in and around the investments. Projects have been supported through the RAP grant program, the Community Development Neighborhood Investment Plan, the Affordable Housing Fund, and grant programs that were funded by COVID relief dollars in prior fiscal years.**

**Focusing on some of our on-going tax incentive programs, Economic Development has focused policy work to prioritize resources for projects in the Neighborhoods of Focus and for new or emerging applicants/businesses. This has included policies to provide greater levels of support from the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and the City through various tax incentives and grant funds. This is proactive work to prioritize the geographic locations that have been identified through research and data to have higher levels of disparity in terms of economic opportunity. Transformational Brownfield projects in Grand Rapids require investment of more than \$100 million and are not projects led by or geographically determined solely by the City.**

13. BG: SmartZone Program – how can we get the Baxter Center more involved with the SmartZone program? JK provided the answer. Where do organizations or companies that have benefited from the program come from – third ward? Info to be provided.

**The SmartZone program is one authorized under state law. Generally, the significance of the geographic designation of a SmartZone is about where services funded by SmartZone resources may occur. For that reason, when the SmartZone's development area was created in Grand Rapids, the zone was designated considering both the resources available to support business incubator(s) and venues where events furthering the goals of SmartZone would occur and was therefore centered on the developing Medical Mile. The zone currently encompasses Michigan Street/Medical Mile and North Monroe with various properties added in 2016 (see map [HERE](#)).. The properties added in 2016 were added to allow for targeted SmartZone**

**funded programming to occur over a broader geography. The geographic designation also does not describe the locations from which businesses seeking SmartZone services originate, they can have their business location anywhere. The services funded by the SmartZone must occur within the SmartZone boundaries, but this could simply mean attending events, classes, and programs within the SmartZone. The primary expenditure of the SmartZone Authority is for business incubators for high-tech businesses.**

**Through a competitive RFP process conducted in 2020, the SmartZone board entered into an agreement with Spartan Innovations and Start Garden as the partners that would operate incubator spaces and provide services to high-technology companies. The location for those incubators are in the Doug Meijer Medical Innovation Building (Spartan Innovations) and at 40 Pearl NW (Start Garden). Companies that receive services from the two operators may be located in the incubators as tenants, but do not have to be located there. The agreement with SI and SG has a goal that 30% of companies served are owned by underrepresented founders. The agreement does not require the partners to track companies by ward. For the purposes of the agreement, “underrepresented” means minority-owned, women-owned, or veteran-owned. For the most recent annual report, the partners reported that 57% of companies served were owned by underrepresented founders. Recent updates from SI and SG are below:**

**Start Garden**

**2023 Yr. Review: 88 Companies engaged (59 Underserved), 39 Minority, 30 Female owned (14 minority/female overlap)**

**2024 Q1: 46 Total Companies Engaged (31 Underserved) 23 Minority, 10 Female owned (3 minority/female overlap)**

**Spartan Innovations**

**2023 Yr. Review: 61 Companies engaged (26 Underserved), 13 Minority, 15 Female owned, 2 overlapping 3 Vet, 2 overlapping with Minority**

**2024 Q1: 50 Total Companies Engaged (29 Underserved) 13 Minority, 13 Female owned, 3 overlapping 4 Vet, overlapping with Minority**

14. KP: Slide 32: Proposed increase in Cart Tipping Fees – most fee increases are in the 2-4% range. However, this is much steeper in the 10% range – why? Is this a good time to increase at that rate? BG: Is there a more incremental way to be sustainable without this extent of increase? MW: We will present the actual dollar impact of the proposals. BG: Can you project what the average cost per year would be for a family? MC: CFO will give a brief presentation on the fee omnibus next Tuesday (5.14.24) which will show the average household impact of water/sewer rates and can present the same for refuse.

**Since the inception of the Pay As You Throw Refuse Program in 2012, there have only been three rate increases – most recent was in 2021. The City recommends a tipping**

fee increase to ensure revenue sufficiency for operating the program due to cost increases as well as to maintain a healthy fund balance within the Refuse Fund. The average cost increase for a family utilizing a 32-gallon cart would be \$9.44/year or \$0.79 per month; if using a 64-gallon cart, average cost increase would be \$15.73/year or \$1.31 month; if using a 96-gallon cart, average cost increase would be \$22.02/year or \$1.84 per month.

<b>Average Annual Bill Increase:</b>	
32-gallon cart	\$9.44
64-gallon cart	\$15.73
96-gallon cart	\$22.02
<b>(Based on average presentment rate of 55%)</b>	

15. JO: Is there some way to purchase a yard waste tag through the Paylt app?

**Currently there is no mechanism to purchase the yard waste cart tag through the Paylt app and notify the refuse driver to collect a particular yard cart – this would require some process engineering and software development.**

16. MY: Request for additional information about changes to bicycle infrastructure. What do those changes look like? A bike lane is different in all parts of the city – discuss the differences.

**The slide below contains more detailed information regarding the bicycle facility changes implemented in 2023, and the subsequent two slides illustrate the bicycle facility types utilized throughout the City.**

## Bicycle Facility Changes- 2023

**Changes to EXISTING Bicycle Facilities = 3.89 centerline miles**

- Ball Ave NE (Knapp St to Aberdeen St) – widened existing bicycle lanes (0.50 miles)
- Ball Ave NE (Spencer to Wakely) – replaced Marked Shared Lanes with Bicycle Lanes (0.45 mi)
- Butterworth Ave SW (O'Brien Rd to Marion Ave) – changed standard bicycle lanes to buffered bicycle lanes (0.70 mi)
- Monroe Ave Separated Bikeway – new pavement markings at N Park (0.02 mi), concrete barrier materials installed in painted buffer s N of boat launch drive (0.05 mi), flexible delineators from boat launch drive to Guild St (0.85 mi)
- Plainfield Ave NE (Arlington St to Hollywood St) – intersection improvement (0.05 mi)
- Turner Ave NW (4th St to Richmond St)\* - changed standard one-way bicycle lane to two-way separated bikeway with bicycle signal at Leonard (1.25 mi)

**NEW Bicycle Facilities = 5.07 centerline miles**

- Ball Ave NE (Service Dr to Mason St) – standard bicycle lanes (+0.20 mi)
- Ball Ave NE (Leonard to Knapp) – bicycle lanes extended to Leonard, Knapp intersections (+0.07 mi)
- Ball Ave/Olson Ave SE (Plymouth Ave to Michigan Ave) – Neighborhood Bikeway (+0.50)
- Boston St SE (EGR city limit to Plymouth Ave) – standard bicycle lanes (+0.35 mi)
- Camelot Dr SE (Lake Eastbrook Blvd to Charring Cross Dr) – standard bicycle lanes (+0.35 mi)
- Ethel St SE (Logan St to Martin Luther King St)\* – standard bicycle lane - one way (+0.35 mi)
- Front Ave/Webster St NW (Leonard St to Scribner Ave) – standard bicycle lanes (+0.40 mi)
- Fuller Ave NE (Knapp St to Plainfield Ave) – standard bicycle lanes (+1.3 mi)
- Garfield Ave NW (W Fulton to Second St)\* – Neighborhood Bikeway (+0.65 mi)
- Giddings Ave SE (Boston to Burton)\* - Neighborhood Bikeway segment (+0.50 mi)
- Plainfield Ave (Taylor Ave to Carrier St) – bicycle lanes and green lane intersection markings (+0.15 mi)
- Turner Ave NW (Richmond St to Ann St)\* - buffered bike lanes (+0.25 mi)

\* Neighborhoods of Focus / \*\*Partially in Neighborhoods of Focus

## Bicycle Facility Types – Lower Stress



### Multi-Use Trail

- Often separated from street ROW but can be a side path next to the street.
- Serves bicycle-plus, pedestrian traffic
- More limited access points
- Interactions with motor vehicles at street intersections

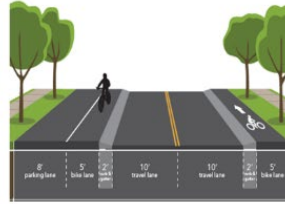
*Examples: Grand River Edges Trail, Oxford Trail, Plaster Creek Trail, Hastings St side path ( Lake Eastbrook side path (28<sup>th</sup> to E Beltline)*



### Separated Bikeway / Bike Lanes

- Adjacent to or in the street
- Separated with delineators, on-street parking, raised medians
- Serves bicycle plus traffic only
- Two-way on on-side of street or located on both sides of street

*Examples: Monroe (Guild to North Park), Turner (4<sup>th</sup> to Richmond), Godfrey (Hall to Oxford), Century (Pleasant to Sheridan/MLK)*



### Raised Bike Lanes

- Ramped curb between travel lanes and bicycles lanes OR adjacent to sidewalk
- Serves bicycle plus traffic only
- At street level thru intersections

*Examples: Alger (Madison to Kalamazoo); planned locations on Ann St (Monroe to Plainfield), N Division (Library to Crescent)*



### Neighborhood Bikeway

- Lower traffic volume streets
- Shared lanes with markings, signs
- Traffic calming, major intersection treatments

*Examples: Garfield NW (Bridge to 2<sup>nd</sup>), Giddings SE (Burton to Boston), Ball/Olson (Plymouth to Michigan), Straight (Wealthy to Butterworth)*

## Bicycle Facility Types – Moderate to Higher Stress



### Buffered Bicycle Lanes

- Painted buffer (~2'-4') left of standard bicycle lane plus signage
- Serves bicycle-plus traffic only
- At street grade
- No physical separation between travel and bicycle lanes

*Examples: Alger SE (Kalamazoo to Plymouth), Butterworth SW (Marion to O'Brien), Fuller NE (Plainfield to Knapp), Market SW (Wealthy to Indian Mounds)*



### Standard Bicycle Lanes

- Painted lines plus signage
- Serves bicycle-plus traffic only
- At street grade
- No physical separation between travel and bicycle lanes
- Can be painted in both directions on one-way streets

*Examples: Covell NW (O'Brien to Richmond), Lake SE (Diamond to Carlton), MLK SE/SW (Chavez to EGR border), Monroe NW (Michigan to Guild)*



### Advisory Bicycle Lanes

- Shared two-way motor vehicle traffic in between bicycle lanes marked with dashes
- Motor vehicle lane wide enough to carry most traffic, move into buffer only if needed
- Serves bicycle-plus traffic only
- At street grade
- No physical separation between travel and bicycle lanes

*Examples: Jefferson SE (Hall to Burton), Rumsey SW (Oakland to Chavez)*



### Marked Shared Lanes

- Shared lane markings added to travel lanes on collector and arterial streets where higher-level bicycles facilities do not fit or won't fit without changes to street configuration.
- Marking indicates where bicyclists should ride
- No physical separation from motor vehicle lanes
- Sometimes used in one direction with bicycle lanes in the other direction.
- City staff phasing these out on major streets – not well received by the public ("not a facility")

*Examples: Butterworth (Marion to Lexington), Cherry (Lake to Madison), Lake (Carlton to Genesee)*

17. MY: There have been several studies mentioned in the budget presentations. Would it be possible to have a timeline at the end of the presentations, so she knows where to circle back to prior studies and resources?

Resource	Effective date (original)	Latest revision date (if applicable)	Link
Citywide Strategic Plan	April 2019	October 2022	<a href="https://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/strategic-plan">Strategic Plan (grandrapidsmi.gov)</a>



GRPD Strategic Plan	September 2020	February 2023	<a href="https://grandrapidsmi.gov">Grand Rapids Police Department Strategic Plan (grandrapidsmi.gov)</a>
Parks Millage Investment Guidelines	September 24, 2013	December 15, 2020	<a href="https://iqm2.com">90427 Resolution approving revisions to the Parks Millage Investment Guidelines - Grand Rapids, Michigan (iqm2.com)</a>
Executive Order 2014-01 – Vital Streets Implementation; Vital Streets Plan; Vital Streets Guidelines	8/14/2014  12/2016 09/2017		<a href="#">Vital Streets Plan</a> <a href="#">Vital Streets Design Guidelines</a>
Economic Development Inclusion Plan	January 2021	N/A	<a href="#">Inclusion Plan Overview</a>
Equitable Economic Development and Mobility Strategic Plan	January 2020	N/A	<a href="#">EEDMSP Document</a>
Trial Court Funding Commission Recommendations	9/6/2019		<a href="https://michigan.gov">Trial Court Funding Commission Final Report (michigan.gov)</a>
National Community Survey	Fall 2019	Spring 2022 (2024 pending)	<a href="https://grandrapidsmi.gov">National Community Survey (grandrapidsmi.gov)</a>
Mobile GR Parking Market Competitiveness Framework	11/2/2023	N/A	<a href="https://iqm2.com">Parking Market Competitiveness Framework - Grand Rapids, Michigan (iqm2.com)</a>
OPA Annual Report	Fall 2019	Spring 2024	
Cure Violence Annual Update	Spring 2021	Summer 2023	<a href="https://grandrapidsmi.gov">Cure Violence Annual Report - July 25, 2023 (grandrapidsmi.gov)</a>
GRFD Accreditation Report	12/31/2023		<a href="#">Fire Report</a>
GRPD Accreditation Report	April 2018	N/A	<a href="https://grandrapidsmi.gov">Grand Rapids (MI) Police Department Assessment Report (grandrapidsmi.gov)</a>
Enterprise Resource Planning	12/22/2024 Go-Live	N/A	<a href="https://grcity.us/group">Grcity.us/group</a>
Facilities Master Plan	October 2024 (est)	N/A	
Materials Management Study	July 2024 (est)	N/A	

Traffic Stop Study	April 2017	March 2025	<a href="http://grandrapidsmi.gov">Traffic Stop Study (grandrapidsmi.gov)</a>
Water and Sewer Rate Study	Annual	11/12/2024	<a href="#">City website Rate Study Page</a>
Surveillance Report	Spring 2024	Spring 2024	<a href="http://grandrapidsmi.gov">Office of Oversight and Public Accountability (grandrapidsmi.gov)</a>
Community Master Plan	2002	Fall 2024	<a href="http://Bridgetoourfuture.com">Bridgetoourfuture.com</a>

18. LK: Development with Us. Connection points to Neighborhood Summit, etc. Are there areas that are doing pretty much the same thing that can add to that work with the same mindset?

**Development with Us and Neighborhood Summit are different programs with a different focus. Neighborhood Summit is an opportunity to connect and provide general education benefiting the entire community. Development with Us is an engagement program that is designed to better connect a neighborhood with a proposed development project. The Development With Us program was previewed at Neighborhood Summit. See response to Question 23 for more detail about Development with Us.**

19. BG: Slide 70 – “\$175,000 for OPA staffing and programming to continue engaging with our community with a special emphasis on serving immigrant and refugee communities.” How is this split between staff and non-staff costs? Does this include an existing position? If it does include an existing position, who occupies that position and what is their role?

**\$100,000 supports the OPA's Community Informed Training Program (CIT). The CIT is a joint initiative between Grand Rapids' Office of Oversight and Public Accountability and the Grand Rapids' public safety departments that allows the community to submit proposals to create, design, suggest, and/or implement trainings that will help our public safety departments provide excellent, culturally informed services to Grand Rapidians.**

**\$75,000 support Immigrant/Refugee Engagement. OPA leads the City's Immigrant and Refugee Engagement efforts and partners with local nonprofits and community members to support efforts that advance equitable outcomes in immigrant and refugee community. In addition, OPA partners with OEE to provide cultural competency trainings to City employees and community members to learn how to best serve immigrant and refugee community members.**

**Our Immigrant and Refugee Engagement and Community Informed Training work is primarily supported a grant funded Justice Analyst (100% WKKF Grant) and a Temporary Community Engagement Analyst. Approximately \$30,000 is used to support that temporary position. In addition to other assignments, both individuals meet with**

**members of the community and serve as a connection point to the City of Grand Rapids. Both positions meet to discuss concerns, solutions, and work to implement programing in a way that best serves Grand Rapidians.**

20. MY: How do we inform residents about, and optimize, our translation services? How do we go to the next level and get into the statistics? DM: Has to be coordinated ownership to report back out on metrics. Time to measure against established baseline.

**The Office of Equity and Engagement initiated the process of developing a Citywide language access policy in FY22 and had initiated a pilot test of the policy with select departments (Planning, Mobile GR) in FY23/24. The goal was to develop a uniform approach to language access with specific guidance, triggers for use and reporting processes to inform the work and determine performance over time. With the transition of leadership in OEE that policy remains in draft form while the team reorganizes its work.**

**Expanding access is a component of the recently adopted Communications Plan and will be part of consultations with Departments as they develop their communication strategies and campaigns – ultimately guided by the policy itself. This will also be a component to the Community Engagement Framework, which will be brought forward this summer for discussion.**

21. LK: "A lot of my questions are around duplicating efforts and then I ask the question as to why we have separate efforts that are not making any change, that's why I asked about the "Develop Us" program, what communities have they engaged with, about what Developments, what was the diversity of the groups they engaged with, making sure that we are working diverse neighborhoods."

**Development with Us (DwUs) is a program that was developed in partnership with a committee that included representatives of the Urban Core Collective (UCC), neighborhood associations, residents and city staff. The partnership formed following receipt of a 2016 letter sent by the UCC asking the City for "*processes that ensure authentic community participation and engagement in neighborhood and city growth*". Attached is a copy of that letter. The former City Manager directed City staff to meet with the UCC and work together to develop a solution to address the stated concern.**

**Between 2016 and 2019 the committee spent a significant amount of time meeting, strategizing and gathering community feedback on various engagement strategies. The Committee worked together to further articulate the problem statement, outline a vision and establish program goals.**

**In 2019 the Development With Us program was launched. It is a voluntary program offered to developers that are proposing projects that may have greater impact to a neighborhood. Developers are encouraged to utilize the program by Planning Dept. staff and incentivized to use the program in light of the Planning Commission's expectation**

that developers authentically engagement community before seeking Planning Commission consideration.

The program itself centers on an enhanced engagement strategy that improves awareness and empowerment of residents. It includes mailings, signage, use of social media, neighborhood meetings, and other engagement techniques to ensure that residents are aware of proposed projects in their neighborhood. It also helps residents identify opportunities to share feedback and engage in the approval process. Importantly, each engagement process is led by a neutral 3<sup>rd</sup> party facilitator contracted by the City.

Thus far, three projects have utilized the program, with three in the pipeline (note that the program was halted between 2020 and 2023 due to the COVID pandemic and lack of funding). A program update was provided to the Economic Development Project Team on 12/05/23 (see attached presentation).

The following information is from the completed projects:

- *340 Hall St. SE - Linc-Up & Motown Sq LLC* – construction of a new 3-story, 54-unit affordable assisted living facility. 17 attendees.
- *613 & 623 Eastern Ave. SE – Eastern Lofts* – construction of a new 4-story, 70-unit development, includes a mix of housing types. 10 attendees.
- *425/427 Eastern Ave. SE – Guiding Light* – new home for eleven women in recover. 11 attendees.

<b>GRSESP FY24 CYCLE TWO July - December 2023</b>	<b>Sponsorship</b>	
<b>Event Name</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind</b>
ArtRat's Saturday Musicians' Co-Op	\$ -	\$ -
Grand Rapids Foodie Fest	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 900.00
The Mitten Vintage Market	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Explore Your Parks Community Workshop	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
Explore Your Parks Competition Series	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Mid West Groove & Smooth Jazz Festival For Minority Mental Health Awareness Month	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 750.00
Love Where You Live Community Festival	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
Cross Country Team Challenge	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Watercolors 6	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 300.00
Global Water Fest 2023	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 250.00
Blue Bridge Fundraisers	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 187.00
Day of Play	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Grand Rapids Hispanic Festival	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 750.00
Geeks R Unique 501c3 presents Free 3-on-3 Family Competition	\$ -	\$ -
Regional Mexicana Music Festival	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 375.00
Party at the Park!	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 125.00
Stock da Bar Foundation Festival (Piecing the Community Together)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 375.00
One Peace Festival	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 125.00
A Glimpse of Africa, Annual African Cultural Festival	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 500.00
10th Annual Family Fiesta Event	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 125.00
Geeks R Unique 501c3 Dream Fest	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 125.00
Polish Festival 2023	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 750.00
Project ESME at MLK Park	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Fiesta Mexicana (Mexican Festival) Los Colores de México	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 750.00
Midtown Grooves	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 125.00
Shop Hop/Streetfair/Various volunteer events in Easttown	\$ 1,750.00	\$ -
Grand Rapids African American Arts and Music Festival	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 750.00
Art of Food Festival	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Stop the Hate Unity Walk	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
9th Annual West Side Walk for Gilda's Club	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Heart Prize	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 250.00
Confluence Festival	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 750.00
Oktoberfest GR	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 374.00
Veterans Day 5	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Shop Hop	\$ 1,750.00	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 130,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,936.00</b>

GRSESP FY24 CYCLE TWO January- June 2024	Sponsorship	
	Cash	In-Kind
Great Skate Winterfest	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Modelo Meltdown	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
St. Patrick's Day Parade	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Ballpark Series	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Alger Heights Neighborhood Hangout	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Hope Network Bridge Walk for Autism	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 299.00
ArborFest & Neighborwoods in partnership with Mayor's Greening Initiative	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Grand Rapids African American Arts and Music Festival (Park Parties)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
Tuesday Night Spring Swing dance at Rosa (May - June)	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
Creston Neighborhood Pancake Brunch	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
The Art of Disruption	\$ -	\$ -
Baxter Summer Series	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
Connecting and Thriving Together	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Girls on the Run Celebration 5K	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 250.00
Roll'N Out Food Truck Fest 2024	\$ 4,250.00	\$ -
Support Our Troops Fest	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 125.00
Praise in the Park GR	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
pARTy in the Parks	\$ 8,500.00	\$ -
Festival of the Arts	\$ 14,000.00	\$ -
NCK Summer Jam 2024	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Rock The Block	\$ 500.00	\$ 300.00
KIDFEST 2024	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 125.00
Michigan Made College Tour	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Art in the Park - Artist Way Project	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Summer Reading Celebrations	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Asian-Pacific Festival 2024	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Block Parties (Garage)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Loving Day at the Grand Rapids Children's Museum	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Eastown Bizarre Bazaar	\$ 1,250.00	\$ -
Homecoming of the Three Fires Pow Wow	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Apartment Lounge Block Party	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Justice 4 All Juneteenth Jam Vol.4	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Art in the Park (South Side Pride—for kids!)	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Grand Rapids Pride Festival	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Weekly Jazz Series	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
BIPOC Night Market	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Tour de Food Trucks	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 110,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,099.00</b>