



## **CITIES, Your time is Running Out!!**

### **Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Reimbursement Likely to End June 30, 2021**

Since the Summer of 2020, LOC has provided extensive communications to all cities in Oregon via the weekly bulletin, weekly state-wide call, and targeted emails to elected officials and financial officers associated with cities.

The purpose of the CRF fund reimbursement was to help cities pay for the impacts of the pandemic, provide economic relief to businesses, and families in financial stress, housing support etc.. LOC had to fight for these funds and a minimum distribution level for all cities. **Your City** is part of a 50-city group that has yet to spend down your CRF allocation. The collective of \$25,000 and \$50,000 allocations is not a small amount of funds and is currently estimated at **\$5 million!** In remaining CRF allocations to cities.

LOC can not stress enough about the importance of accessing your allocation of CRF funds and getting reimbursement. The good news for you as a city is that the reimbursement can go back to costs starting in the spring-summer of 2020 and extend all the way through June 30 of this year. The last thing we want to do is leave money on the table that could otherwise benefit your community's interest and support.

At this point you have less than 60 days to get your reimbursement requests into DAS. While there are constraints for the CRF eligible expenses you have several options for use of the funds.

LOC is suggesting every city review the following options and **decide** by June 30, 2021.

- 1) Seek reimbursement of pandemic related expenses and/or community benefit. **A memo is attached to this communication that explains the process and has links to everything associated with the CRF fund reimbursement.**
- 2) Consider transferring your funding allocation to another third party for use such as a community-based organization assisting with homelessness, food insecurity.....
- 3) Transfer your allocation to the county for use in CRF eligible expenses.
- 4) Send notice to DAS that you will not be using your CRF allocation due to lack of expenses related to the impacts of the pandemic.

You will need to contact DAS for options 1-3 so they understand your intent moving forward. Do not wait until June to make decisions, its critical you have a plan established ASAP!

If you have any follow-up questions, please direct them to either Mark Gharst at LOC [mgharst@orcities.org](mailto:mgharst@orcities.org) or Robert Hamilton with DAS [Robert.W.HAMILTON@oregon.gov](mailto:Robert.W.HAMILTON@oregon.gov).

My apologies for the candor in this memo, but its critical the CRF funds are taken care of. If you have already taken care of your CRF reimbursement, please let us know so we can cross check the list with DAS and make sure there is proper accounting.

