CITY OF LA CROSSE

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LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT FOR COUNCIL

File ID 23-1206

Caption Resolution approving $75,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the Arts Board

Staff/Department Responsible for Legislation

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department
Jacqueline Marcou, Arts Coordinator

Requestor of Legislation

This legislation was composed and unanimously approved by the City of La Crosse Arts Board.

Location, if applicable

The Arts Board concentrates projects in highly visible City of La Crosse property.

Summary/Purpose

Requesting $75,000 from "lost revenue" uncommitted ARPA funds for the Arts Board of La Crosse. The funds will be used for the newly upgraded grant program, community partnerships and new and ongoing public art projects in the City of La Crosse. The Arts Board funding from the city has historically been approximately $20,000. The one time ARPA funding would allow the Board to implement it's vision to enhance and cultivate arts and culture in the City of La Crosse.

Background

The Arts Board was formed in 2014 with a vision of Arts and Culture Advocacy in La Crosse. Over the past year, the board has spent time to revamp it's grant program in an effort to support artists in the La Crosse area with funding opportunities for public art, available to residents and visitors. The board has also invested their efforts into creating a budget to reflect it's current budget as well as a proposed budget based on the possibility of receiving ARPA funds. The board also has established an account housed under the La Crosse Community Foundation, ensuring stewardship of current and future funds.

Fiscal Impact

Zero impact to the general operating budget. The use of these funds deter from other ARPA related projects.

Staff Recommendation

As representing staff of the Arts Board, this funding merits the support of public art. Staff also understands that this recommendation does not include the weighing of priorities of overall ARPA funding use.