

## LOCAL COMMUNITY RECOVERY IDEAS FOR CARES ACT FUNDS

Each Missouri community will receive money from their County through the State of Missouri from the Federal CARES Act. Here are some recommendations to put those funds to use in your community to support small business.

### PURPOSE

The CARES Act set aside money to go directly to communities through the county to divide up amongst its municipalities. Those municipalities are to utilize the funds for emergency medical and protective supplies, cleaning of facilities or equipment, and to provide economic recovery programs. The funds cannot be used for general budget items or to support regular municipal revenue shortfalls.

Funds must be spent by Dec 31, 2020.

**CARES Act verbiage** – “The requirement that expenditures be incurred “due to” the public health emergency means that expenditures must be used for actions taken to respond to the public health emergency. These may include expenditures incurred to allow the State, territorial, local, or Tribal government to respond directly to the emergency, such as by addressing medical or public health needs, as well as expenditures incurred to respond to second-order effects of the emergency, such as by providing economic support to those suffering from employment or business interruptions due to COVID-19-related business closures. “

### COLLABORATING PARTNERS

Partners within the community to implement some of the recommendations include:

- City and County
- Main Street program
- Chamber of Commerce
- Economic Development entity
- Business owners
- Property owners
- Missouri Main Street Connection

*The information on this form are presented as ideas and are not intended to be all inclusive of the CARES Act requirements or options. Please work with your State, County, and City partners.*

### POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

#### ACTIVITIES:

- **A revolving loan fund (or forgivable loan is recommended) for the following:**
  - Assist small businesses in the community to pay overhead costs and/or reopening costs
  - Assist small businesses to make building improvements or additions such as outdoor dining option or outdoor patios. Restaurant seating will be restricted for months and this gives them more space to spread out customers
  - Engage local Main Street organization to enhance marketing or to purchase hand sanitizer stations for events or public spaces
  - Assist new or start-up businesses with costs associated with opening in the new environment
- **Engage with Missouri Main Street Connection to utilize matching grant programs:**
  - To start a Main Street downtown revitalization organization to coordinate efforts of business owners, property owners, residents, and municipality
  - To create a downtown plan reflective of the new business climate
  - To create a business recruitment and retention plan for the next 12 months
  - To create a streetscape or space utilization plan with architects on outdoor seating, event space, or parklets
  - Develop a business succession plan for those that want to transition out of their business

### POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT OR CLEANING:

- Municipalities can use the funds to purchase PPE and additional equipment for emergency responders.
- Municipalities can use the funds for extra cleaning or disinfecting public spaces or municipal buildings.



For more information or assistance on any of the items on this fact sheet, contact Missouri Main Street Connection at [info@momainstreet.org](mailto:info@momainstreet.org) or by calling 417-334-3014.