

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 4, 2020

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session meeting via a virtual format streamed into the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, on June 4, 2020 at 7:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles*
Mark Freeman*
Jennifer Duff*
Francisco Heredia*
David Luna*
Kevin Thompson*
Jeremy Whittaker*

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Dee Ann Mickelsen
Jim Smith

(*Council participated in the meeting through the use of video conference equipment.)

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call

(Mayor Giles excused Councilmember Luna from the remainder of the meeting at 8:03 a.m.)

1-a. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on a Mesa CARES program that will provide remote learning through technology for Mesa's K-6 students.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated the presentation is a follow-up to a discussion which occurred a few weeks ago regarding the idea of using CARES dollars to support distance learning, specifically focusing on kindergarten through sixth (K-6) grade. He introduced Dr. Andi Furlis, Superintendent of Mesa Public Schools (MPS), and asked her to share with Council what has changed in the world of education and the importance of technology.

Dr. Furlis pointed out with school closures that began on March 16, MPS's world completely changed from the typical face-to-face learning environment to a digital or remote environment. She mentioned that approximately 7,000 MPS children were not able to connect to teachers because they either did not have access to the internet or a computer device. She advised the One-to-One Technology Initiative provides students in 9th through 12th grades with a computer to take home; junior high students were reallocated refurbished devices, leaving a huge challenge of how to get devices into the hands of elementary school students.

Dr. Furlis discussed that since March, education has been delivered either digitally for those students who have devices and access to the internet, or through paper packets for those who do not have access to devices and internet, adding the ability to serve the needs of students was significantly compromised for students learning with the paper packet. She identified the need to expand the One-to-One Initiative down to the K-6 grade levels not only for access to the

academic lessons, but also to stay socially and emotionally connected to their teachers, schools, counselors, and social workers. She noted having access to technology and the internet is an equalizer not only for learning, but also for critical services provided within the community.

Councilmember Luna affirmed the importance of supporting education and connecting children in K-6 to digital learning. He mentioned MPS is working with internet providers, along with several non-profit groups, to ensure that students have internet access. He pointed out that the pandemic is not over; and with no vaccine available yet, schools may be doing online learning for a while, which makes having the devices available important for the students' continued education.

Mr. Brady displayed a PowerPoint presentation, stating discussions have taken place to consider moving \$7 million from the Business Assistance Program to assist with the educational access for City of Mesa students in grades K-6 by acquiring technology that is consistent with what the school districts are currently using. He explained even if the City is able to provide the devices, Mesa falls behind many cities in broadband access, and there needs to be a thorough analysis of what it will take to expand the City's current fiber conduit and infrastructure to deliver services to every home in Mesa. He proposed bringing in professional services to evaluate the possibility of a Citywide fiber system. **(See Attachment 1)**

Councilmember Thompson concurred with reviewing the Citywide fiber infrastructure. He expressed his concern with CARES Act funding being reallocated for a feasibility study for an item that was not caused by COVID.

Mr. Brady addressed Councilmember Thompson's concern stating that he feels there is some language that may suggest the project could be funded through CARES Act dollars. He added if the feasibility study is not covered by the CARES Act there is still the need for the City to determine whether there is an opportunity to provide conduit to allow other providers the ability to lease the space inside the City of Mesa conduit.

In response to a question from Councilmember Thompson regarding whether there is an opportunity to partner with Cox and Century Link to have them conduct a feasibility study of their system across Mesa to get an idea of what areas are lacking, Mr. Brady agreed Cox and Century Link could be part of the conversation. He advised the City is looking to be responsible for the conduit and then lease the space in the conduit to providers.

Mayor Giles communicated his support of long-term Citywide connectivity and inquired whether the devices will be able to function despite bad infrastructure in certain parts of the City?

Dr. Furlis informed Council that the proposal would include internet access in two different ways: One, to provide funding for Cox to directly connect the household with internet; and two, if the family does not meet the credit check standards, a hotspot data package would be available. She mentioned that the devices will also contain software filters to ensure students are not using the internet for prohibited sites, will have insurance, and access to a help desk for questions.

In response to a question from Councilmember Whittaker regarding whether there is a budgetary breakdown of how the funds will be spent, Mr. Brady shared that the total number of devices needed for MPS is 9,000, along with packages for internet access or hotspots, and 420 for Gilbert Public School students living in Mesa boundaries. He stated the total budget for the program is estimated at \$6.5 million. He remarked MPS has had a plan to bring devices to the students which the pandemic accelerated.

In response to a series of questions posed by Councilmember Whittaker, Dr. Furlis commented on the need to only manage one type of device, and currently the students have Dell laptops, which is also what the proposal calls for. She mentioned the challenge is supply and demand and the difficulty of receiving the laptops before school starts because of the backlog. She reported MPS currently is a Google district and uses Google Suite. She added there are some schools that use iPads because of a partnership they have with Apple, but the district-wide implementation has been strictly laptops.

Councilmember Whittaker emphasized that education is the great equalizer in society, and he supports bridging the gap and providing students the ability to learn remotely to ensure they do not fall behind.

In response to a series of questions from Vice Mayor Freeman, Dr. Furlis explained MPS is currently in their fifth year of one-to-one implementation for students in 9-12 grades and the loss rate is 4%. She anticipates that the number could grow higher with elementary students; however, the proposal does include an insurance plan that will be negotiated with the vendor that will replace or repair damaged laptops. She pointed out that everyone in the City needs faster and stronger internet. She identified that a survey was requested of MPS families which revealed that approximately 7,000 families feel they do not have safe and reliable internet with most of those families living on the West side of Mesa.

In response to a question from Councilmember Duff regarding the total number of MPS families, Dr. Furlis clarified the proposal is for 9,000 devices to be used for K-6 students who currently do not have devices. She mentioned the data points for the survey were households for internet and each individual student for a device. She remarked many families had access to internet at work and when the family member was furloughed, that access was gone; or with restaurants that provided free Wi-Fi being closed, they no longer were able to use the internet.

Mayor Giles stated the consensus of Council is to proceed with purchasing the devices for students and for staff to continue gathering information to address the resources needed beyond the devices.

1-b. Hear a presentation, discuss and provide direction on an update of the Mesa CARES Small Business Assistance Reemergence Program, focusing on the results and award recommendations of the Mesa CARES Financial Assistance Grant Program.

Mr. Brady introduced Assistant Economic Development Director Jaye O'Donnell to present the final results and recommendations to fund the businesses who met the eligibility requirements for the Small Business Reemergence Program (SBRP), who displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 2)**

Ms. O'Donnell reminded Council the SBRP is one leg of the program, which also includes the Technical Assistance and Marketing Program. She shared some of the major milestones and accomplishments that the City of Mesa has made over the last few months. (See Page 2 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell stated the SBRP is a grant program structured and designed to help eligible Mesa businesses affected by the pandemic to pay for up to 90 days of rent or mortgage and utilities. (See Page 3 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell highlighted that nearly 2,600 people requested the application online of which 1,882 people began to fill out the application, with 846 applications being formally submitted and processed. She reported 520 applications were deemed eligible, verified, and recommended for award. (See Page 4 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell presented a chart showing the number of applications submitted by date. (See Page 5 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell broke down the results by industry, with personal care services being the top industry requesting assistance, followed by retail, restaurants, and entertainment. (See Page 6 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell noted the application asked the businesses to report the number of employees pre-COVID to confirm the program was assisting small businesses. She provided the breakdown of employees each business employed prior to March 1, adding 488 businesses recommended for award have less than 10 employees. She continued by saying 463 applications were filled out in English, 57 in Spanish, and one in Vietnamese. (See Pages 7 and 8 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell showed a map that plotted the geographic areas where the applications came from and where the businesses are located that were recommended to receive awards. (See Page 9 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell discussed the verification and review process for the applications. She stated the first level of review processed 846 applications to ensure they met all the eligibility criteria. She indicated the award phase review was the same verification as the first level, plus verifying that the utility, mortgage, or lease documents matched the requested amount, then calculating the allowable amount based on the documentation provided. (See Pages 10 and 11 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell announced the process generated a recommendation of 520 applicants receiving funding totaling \$4.8 million, with \$4.24 million going toward rental assistance and \$567,000 for utility assistance. (See Page 12 of Attachment 2)

Ms. O'Donnell indicated the disbursement process will be handled through email correspondence and will require e-certification from the company receiving the grant that all the information they provided is still true and correct and have not received any federal funding in the interim. (See Page 13 of Attachment 2)

In response to a question from Councilmember Thompson, Ms. O'Donnell confirmed \$20 million in CARES Act funding was set aside for the SBRP and \$4.8 million is the amount being awarded.

Mr. Brady explained the \$4.8 million is the amount that has been verified from what was submitted to the City. He mentioned the process was able to highlight the smaller, less sophisticated businesses who had not received any federal funding.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Thompson regarding whether the City could now remove some of the stipulations to open the program up to more businesses and spend the rest of the \$20 million on the SBRP, Mr. Brady remarked the \$7 million that will be used to purchase devices for MPS students in grades K-6 will come out of the \$20 million. He stated there is some funding available to either create new programs or open the SBRP up to a broader group.

Councilmember Thompson communicated his desire to open the program back up and lessen the restrictions to help a greater number of small businesses.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Freeman regarding whether there will be another round of funding to identify other businesses who need assistance, Mr. Brady replied the presentation was to provide the results of the program and inform Council where the program stands as of today. He advised of the 846 applications received, many had already received CARES funding, while others may not have even applied after reviewing the eligibility criteria. He recommended awarding the funding to the 520 eligible businesses; and then if Council wants to begin another round of funding for businesses, staff can continue the outreach.

Mayor Giles commented the initial \$18 million allocation was set before the City knew what the demand would be. He added that a fair amount of assistance has already been provided to businesses through the federal CARES Act funding and the money allocated to the cities was to cover impacts of COVID on city governments. He continued by saying that the City of Mesa made the decision to use some of the funding to help small businesses who did not qualify for federal funding. He agreed with the idea of immediately funding the 520 eligible businesses and then suggested taking a step back to assess where the needs are.

In response to a question from Councilmember Duff regarding whether the businesses are receiving 100% of their request, Mr. Brady elaborated the \$4.8 million is 100% of what has been verified by the documents provided. He pointed out that while the majority of the businesses have less than five employees, there were a few businesses that applied with over 50 full-time employees and their requested funding was significantly higher. He inquired whether Council would like to create a cap on the total benefit award? He reported the median award amount was approximately \$8,000.

Councilmember Thompson remarked he feels there is an opportunity to help more small businesses in Mesa even if they have already received CARES Act funding. He agreed with providing the funding to the 520 eligible businesses to get them up and running again.

In response to a question from Councilmember Heredia regarding whether there are any restrictions on cities giving additional funding to businesses that have already received CARES Act money, Mr. Brady acknowledged the \$20 million mentioned was an estimate and is by far the largest number set aside by any state or local municipality. He reviewed the breakdown of the \$20 million stating \$5 million for grants, \$7 million for student devices, and approximately \$1.5 million for the Business Assistance and Marketing Program. He stated in a previous presentation there was a discussion about allocating dollars to the Mesa Arts Center (MAC) non-profits which will be brought forward to Council at a future meeting.

Councilmember Duff expressed the importance of the Technical Assistance and Marketing Assistance Programs because they build resilience and help create models for businesses to follow. She stated she would like to see more dollars allocated to these programs rather than providing a short-term band-aid of funding.

In response to a question from Councilmember Duff, Mr. Brady clarified for City utilities there will be a deposit made to the customer's account. He added the program will also pay for Salt River Project (SRP) or Southwest Gas utilities; and in those cases, there will be a transfer of funds. He verified the Technical Assistance Program is a Citywide program for any business in Mesa and there is an opportunity to increase the funding for the program. He suggested using the rest of the funding for broader utility assistance and keeping the programs running through December.

Councilmember Duff commented on sending out a survey along with the acceptance letter to receive feedback from the first round of funding recipients to help the City make decisions going forward.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Freeman regarding putting a cap on the dollar amount awarded, Mr. Brady advised there is a large disparity between the amounts requested for the larger businesses with more employees; however, the numbers have been verified and they are tied to rent and utilities.

Vice Mayor Freeman declared he is comfortable with the dollar amounts requested for the larger businesses, adding he is not in favor of capping the amount because larger businesses are struggling just as much as smaller businesses.

Mayor Giles commented he is uncomfortable with granting awards in excess of \$100,000 to individual businesses in the program and would prefer seeing a \$50,000 or \$60,000 cap.

In response to a series of questions posed by Councilmember Whittaker, Ms. O'Donnell confirmed the top seven eligible businesses recommended for award are made up of those businesses who requested more than \$50,000. She remarked the total for the top seven requests is \$720,000, or 15% of the overall \$4.8 million granted. She provided the total number of jobs reported for the 520 applications pre-COVID were 1,740 and the top seven represent 216, or 12% of the overall jobs. She stated the average award amount is \$10,000, with the median being approximately \$8,000. She recommended for more parity to consider two tiers: A \$50,000 tier and a \$100,000 tier to reduce the percentage awarded. She explained the difficulty in figuring out how to make it fair for all businesses when they each have distinct business models, number of employees, and square footage.

Councilmember Whittaker communicated his concern in not setting a cap because of the massive allocation of funding going to a small percentage of businesses. He questioned whether staff are doing any analysis of why the businesses are not eligible for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)?

Mr. Brady confirmed time was not spent on analyzing why businesses were not eligible. He continued by saying the majority of businesses being funded have two or three employees. He mentioned coming up with a per employee cap and then using that denominator across all businesses.

Mayor Giles agreed with Mr. Brady's suggestion of capping the number by employee to ensure there is not a lopsided award for one business. He mentioned he is anxious to get the funding out and that staff will need to quickly come up with the criteria.

Further discussion ensued relative to creating a cap formula.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Thompson, Ms. O'Donnell clarified that the business with 75 projected employees is a company that signed a lease agreement in the fall of 2019, were in the process of making tenant improvements, had hired employees, and were scheduled to open April 15. She reported the new plan is to open in June with a projection of 100 jobs, 50 full-time and 50 part-time.

In response to a question from Councilmember Thompson regarding the top business, Mayor Giles indicated he did not want to know the names of the businesses because he does not want there to be an appearance of favoritism.

Mr. Brady affirmed all the businesses recommended for award were legitimate expenses and that at some future point the names of the businesses could be shared with Council. He reported of the top two businesses, one was scheduled to open and was not able to, and the other one has made a large investment in an entertainment and restaurant space and is brand new to Mesa. He explained both were significantly impacted by COVID.

Councilmember Duff pointed out the ripple effect of a business failing also results in a landlord losing a tenant. She voiced her desire to compare the two models side-by-side but understands the need to move quickly.

Mr. Brady proposed moving forward with the awards that are under \$50,000 and discuss the awards over \$50,000 at a future meeting to determine the best course of action.

Councilmember Whittaker expressed his preference to move forward with awarding the funding for under \$50,000 with a cap per employee.

Mayor Giles made a motion instructing staff to move forward with issuing the awards to the businesses requesting up to \$50,000 and placing an item on the agenda for next week's Study Session for additional awards to the businesses requesting in excess of \$50,000 based on a formula tied to the number of employees.

Councilmember Whittaker expressed opposition to the motion unless there is per employee cap for all businesses.

Ms. O'Donnell commented that the program was developed specifically for small businesses and all the businesses recommended for award have less than 100 employees, which defines them as small businesses. She further advised the program was laid out to fund rent or mortgage and utilities for 90 days and was not tied to employee counts because the verification would be difficult. She highlighted that all the due diligence for verifying utility and rent amounts has been completed and the expenses are valid. She added the only reason the top seven were pulled for discussion is because they were requesting over \$50,000; however, the expenses are not completely out of line for running a business in today's environment. She requested a few days to figure out a formula for a tiered category or cap.

Mr. Brady emphasized the discrepancies for the larger dollar amounts are due to the sizes of buildings being rented and the overhead for the businesses. He affirmed staff will figure out a formula to bring back to Council.

It was moved by Mayor Giles, seconded by Vice Mayor Freeman to fund the 520 awardees up to \$50,000 and continuing the discussion for the additional awards in excess of \$50,000 to the next Study Session.

AYES – Giles-Freeman-Duff-Heredia-Thompson

NAYS – Whittaker

ABSENT – Luna

Mayor Giles declared the motion carried by majority vote.

1-c. Hear a presentation, discuss and provide direction on the proposed 2020 Mesa Moves Transportation Bond Program.

Mr. Brady introduced Office of Management and Budget Deputy Director Scott Butler, Transportation Department Director RJ Zeder, and Deputy Transportation Director Erik Guderian, who displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 3)**

Mr. Butler advised the presentation is to update Council regarding a potential 2020 bond question and provide a comprehensive look at the Multi-modal Transportation Program which addresses the needs discussed in the potential bond, as well as other opportunities across the City.

Mr. Zeder stated 10 priority regional roadway projects have been identified should Council wish to proceed with a Transportation Bond with an estimated cost of \$97 million and gave examples of two projects. He mentioned should Council authorize the bond election, that would allow the City of Mesa to receive reimbursement through the Arterial Lifecycle Program (ALCP) of approximately \$63 million for the projects. (See Page 3 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Zeder identified several streets throughout the City that are reaching the end of their useful life and need to be rebuilt. He gave examples of arterial road construction projects, adding the total is estimated to be \$45 million. (See Page 4 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Zeder presented samples of active transportation projects which refers to any self-propelled, human-powered mode of transportation. He continued by saying the cost for the active transportation projects would come out of the reimbursement funding; and rather than identify specific projects, the idea is to identify the funding and then work with the community to come up with projects that would expand the shared-use path and bicycle lanes. (See Page 5 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Zeder summarized the total of the Mesa Moves Transportation Program would be \$162 million because the City is able to leverage, in addition to the bond funding, over \$60 million in ALCP reimbursement. He pointed out the \$100 million investment in bonds will allow the City to move forward with a Citywide transportation program that totals \$162 million. He highlighted the three major categories within the Mesa Moves Program. (See Pages 6 and 7 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Butler advised Council was provided an attachment to the agenda item that lists the regional roadways and major intersections that are proposed as part of the Bond Program that allow the City to leverage the bonds to receive the ALCP reimbursement.

Mr. Butler presented the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) ALCP reimbursement schedule. He commented that as the City spends bond dollars, the City will receive the reimbursement based on a quarterly schedule. (See Page 8 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Guderian spoke about the five-year schedule beginning in calendar year 2021 that includes utility improvements and the federal requirements tied to some of the projects. He stated Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) have associated operations and maintenance costs to ensure the City can fund and maintain them once they are open. (See Page 9 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Guderian pointed out there is a lot more involved with street projects than the asphalt and vehicles moving on them such as the utilities, fiber conduit, water, sewer, and third-party utilities that need to be coordinated. He mentioned additional funding for utility upgrades or utility improvements will be identified, which may impact scheduling. (See Page 10 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Guderian reported there are two types of ALCP funding for MAG. He explained most is from Proposition 400 regional sales tax, but there are two projects where MAG receives federal funding that gets passed through to the cities. He noted when there are federal dollars associated, the timeframe is extended because of the additional clearances and steps required. He continued by saying a typical roadway project from beginning of design through opening day is generally three to four years; and another 12 to 18 months is added for the federal process. (See Page 11 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Guderian outlined of the 10 regional roadway improvement projects identified, two are currently under design with the prospect of moving forward with construction. He remarked the two projects are fairly complex and Transportation is working closely with utilities to make sure the project is completed. He advised staff will come back to Council in the fall with a more detailed schedule for the projects. (See Page 12 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Guderian discussed the arterial road reconstruction projects, stating the Mesa Moves Transportation Program would provide \$45 million to reconstruct arterial streets, which includes \$11 million from bonds and the balance funded through the reimbursement process. (See Page 13 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Guderian explained the Active Transportation Program will be seeking more community feedback on identified projects and staff will bring those projects back to Council. (See Page 14 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Zeder noted the Engineering Department is a certification acceptance agency, which allows the City to self-certify a large portion of both the design and construction process instead of having the State oversee the projects.

Councilmember Thompson said he appreciates the fact that the City can leverage \$100 million in bonds and receive \$62 million in regional funding. He stated the process is lengthy from the moment the bond is approved to the finished product and that waiting any longer to put this on the ballot would only expand the roadway improvement timeline.

Councilmember Whittaker agreed with Councilmember Thompson, adding the return on investment is a no-brainer.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Duff, Mr. Brady clarified that after the previous discussion regarding the bond, he asked staff to identify regional projects under \$150 million and to fund those projects first to maximize the reimbursement. He reminded Council that the reimbursement is actually the sales tax that Mesa residents are paying which goes to the region and this will, in essence, give those dollars back to Mesa.

Mr. Guderian explained the City Share Program refers to the process that requires a developer to build the street that is directly adjacent to the property they are developing. He stated City Code requires them to build 24 feet of asphalt, which, in most cases, does not provide enough traffic lanes, and then the City spends additional funds to build the entire road at the same time.

Mr. Butler commented of the \$97 million, \$89 million is for regional roadways that are eligible for MAG reimbursement, and the \$11 million for the early stages of the arterial road reconstruction makes up the \$100 million bond. He commented the \$4 million for City Share will come from the regional reimbursements in order to meet the City Share Program obligations.

Mr. Brady pointed out there is not currently a specific list of all projects, but staff can provide examples of arterial road construction needs throughout the City. He stated the program balances the regional projects, which are generally new roads and construction, then adding the arterial reconstructs in the older parts of the community to provide new roads.

Councilmember Duff requested that when streets are reconstructed that they make them walkable and bikeable.

In response to a question from Councilmember Whittaker regarding whether the Transportation Bond projects could change depending on what future Councils decide, Mr. Brady agreed that future Councils would have discretion regarding projects; however, regional projects go through an approval process with the region and have to meet certain criteria. He assumed there will be future Council involvement in project discussions.

City Attorney Jim Smith noted the wording on the ballot and even in the publicity pamphlet is a general statement about the type of infrastructure improvements, adding the City also provides an additional informational pamphlet that describes the specific projects anticipated and the public holds the Council accountable.

Mayor Giles indicated consensus of Council is to move forward and thanked staff for the presentation.

Mr. Brady announced the formal resolution will be brought to Council on June 15.

2. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

2-a. Museum & Cultural Advisory Board meeting held on March 26, 2020.

It was moved by Councilmember Thompson, seconded by Vice Mayor Freeman, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Freeman-Duff-Heredia-Thompson-Whittaker

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Luna

Mayor Giles declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Mayor Giles – Banner Baywood – meal delivery

Councilmember Duff – The Nile and IX West - Restaurant Buyout Program

Councilmember Duff encouraged residents contributing to the canned food drive can also participate in the Hydration Challenge and drop off water at the same location.

Mayor Giles noted the first Communities of Color Forum will be filmed today with leaders from the African American community.

4. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, June 11, 2020, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

5. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 4th day of June 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

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(Attachments – 3)



Educational access for City of Mesa students K-6:
(\$7,000,000)

- Traditional learning environment has been impacted by COVID-19.
- Acquire technology to consistent with existing remote learning systems provided by local school districts.
- Provide technology support for city of Mesa K-6 students.



Support distance learning with existing remote technology systems:

- Schools districts' estimate that 9,500 K-6 students in Mesa lack access to school district issued devices required for distance learning.
- Areas of Mesa continue to experience the impacts of a digital divide.
- Engage professional services to develop feasibility of a city-wide fiber connected system.



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program Results and Recommendations

Jaye O'Donnell | Assistant Economic Development Director, City of Mesa

City of Mesa Council Study Session | 6.4.20



COVID-19 Response – Timeline of Activities 2020

- 3.19 City of Mesa launched Mesa CARES website
- 3.27 Mesa Office of Economic Development launched Mesa CARES Business Assistance Portal
- 4.1 Mesa OED launched the Mesa CARES Business Impact Survey
- 5.11 City of Mesa launched the Mesa CARES Small Business Reemergence Grant Program – Online application went live.
- 6.8 Mesa CARES Small Business Reemergence launches Technical Assistance - Online application opens
- 6.29 Mesa CARES Reemergence Marketing begins



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

The Mesa CARES Small Business Reemergence Program is a **grant program**, made possible by the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund.

It is designed to assist eligible Mesa businesses with **up to 90 days of utilities and rent/mortgage payments based on the number of applications and funding available** and is aimed at those businesses who have experienced interruption caused by required closures.



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

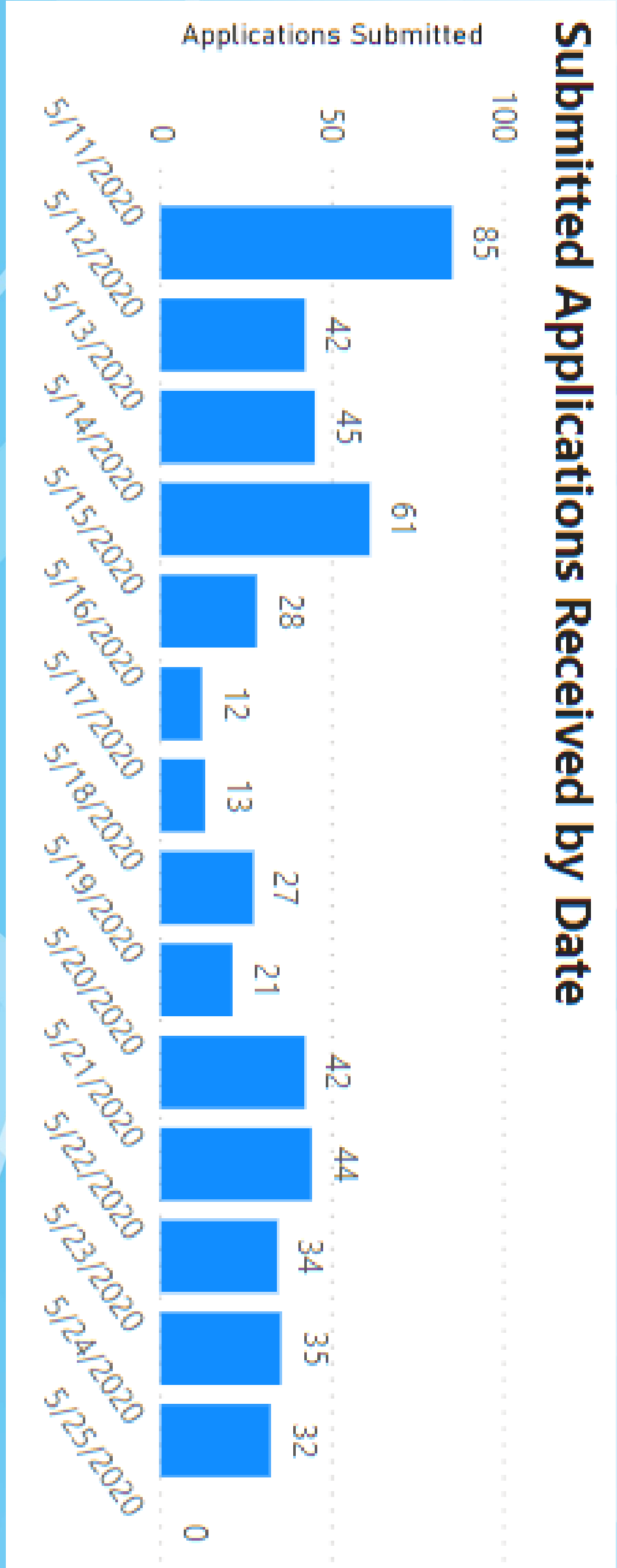
Application results by the numbers

- Applications were open May 11 - 24, 2020
- **2,599** individuals requested the application online
 - **1,882** started to fill out the application
 - **846** applications were formally submitted and processed
 - **520** were eligible, verified, and recommended for award
 - Balance deemed ineligible for reasons including non-Mesa address (county islands, other cities); recipient of CARES Act funding; incomplete; etc.



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

Submitted Applications Received by Date





Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

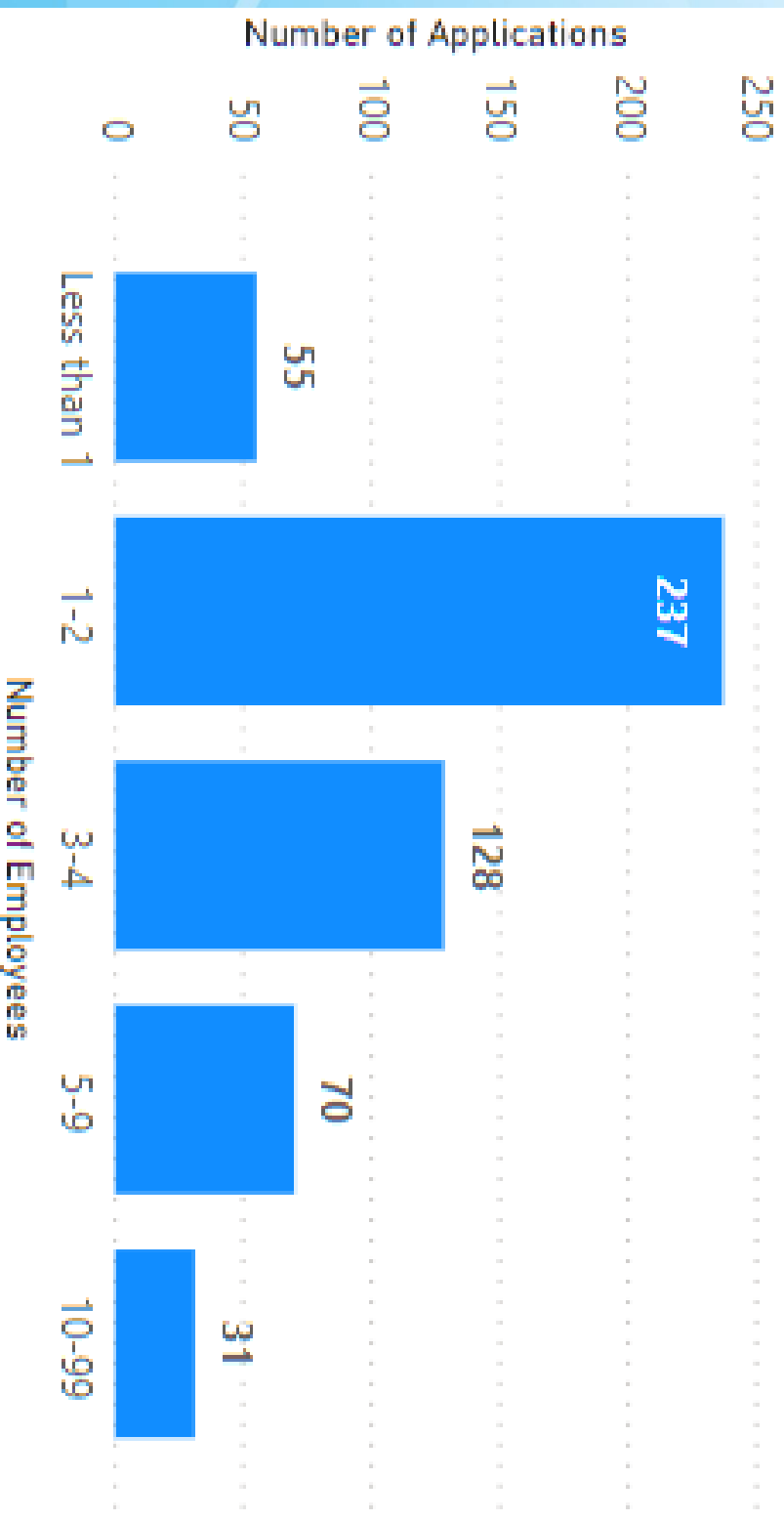
Results by Industry

Personal Care Services – 133	Manufacturing – 9
Retail (Non-Grocery) – 93	Construction/Development – 9
Restaurant – 78	Education/Childcare – 8
Entertainment/Recreation – 34	Financial; Grocery; IT/Software – 7 each
Prof. & Tech Services – 31	Bar/Breweries/Wineries – 5
Healthcare – 30	Transportation – 5
Repair and Maint. – 21	Real Estate; Warehousing – 4 each
Motor Vehicles & Parts – 19	Tourism/Hospitality – 3
Other – 12	Pet Services – 2



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

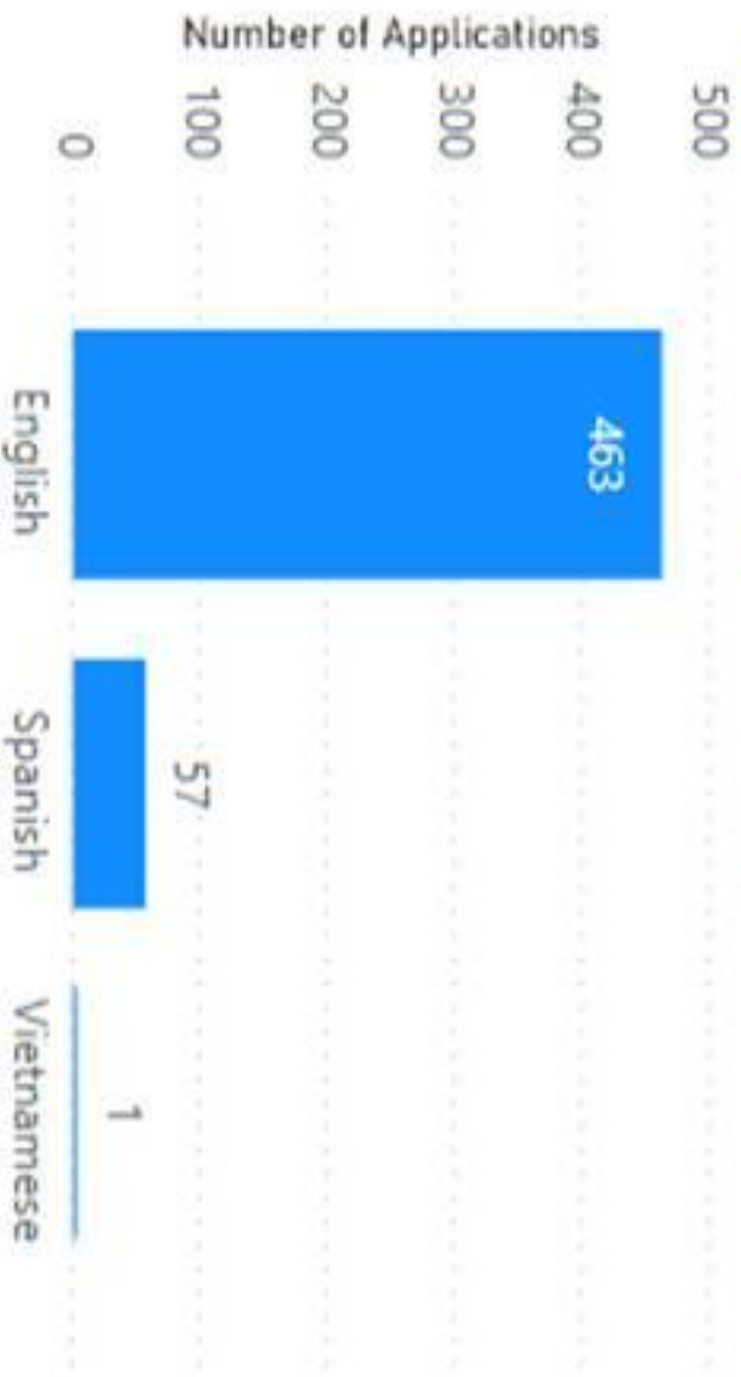
Number of Employees Prior to COVID-19 March 1st





Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

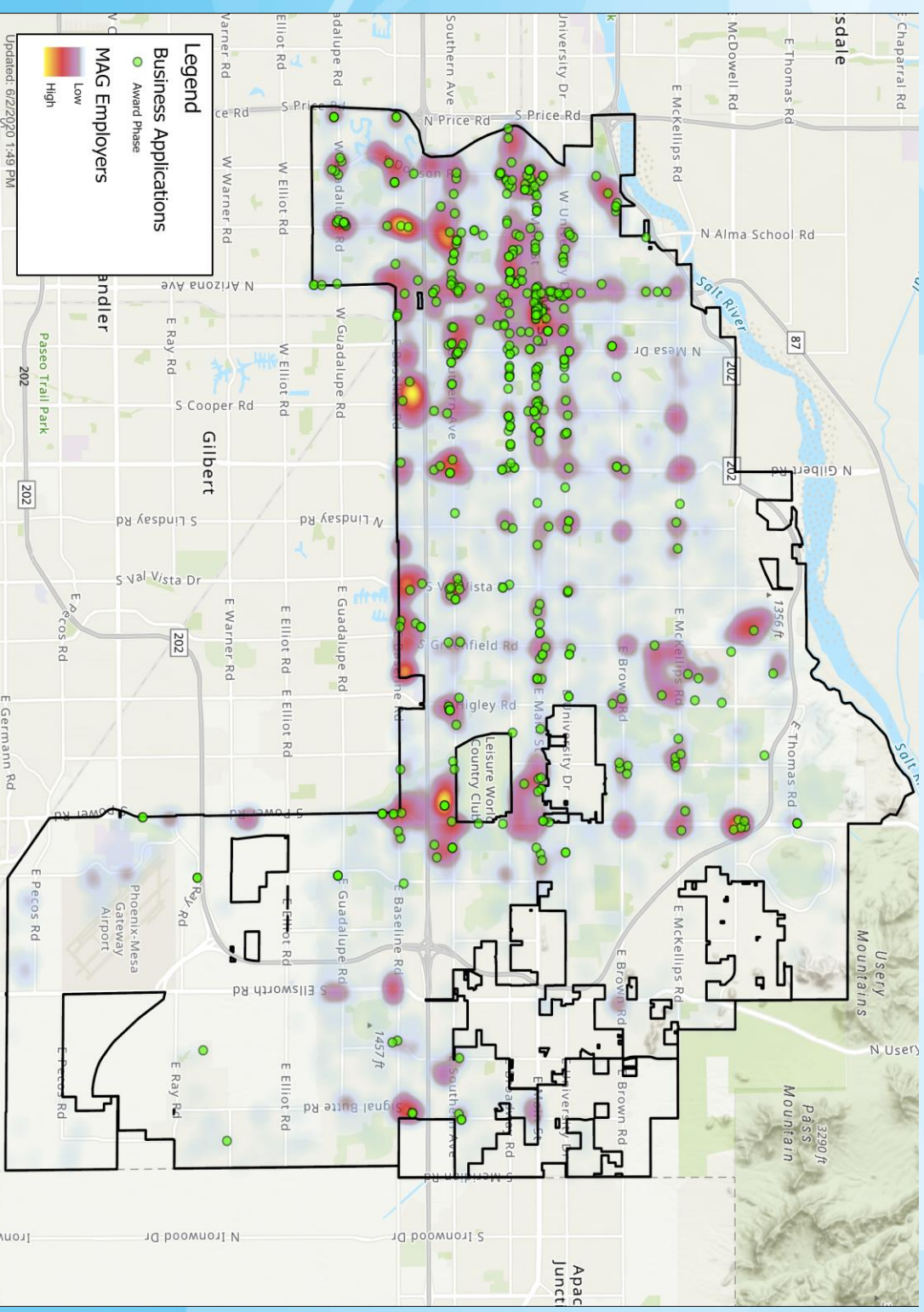
Applications by Language





Applications recommended to receive awards by geographic area and the Mesa business density map

- Green dots are recommended for award
- Business density from Maricopa Association of Governments





Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

Verification, review, and award process – Review Phase

- First Level reviewers processed 846 applications:
 - Eligible industry and business type
 - CARES Act recipient
 - Valid physical, commercial address AND Mesa-based
 - Valid W-9
 - Valid and matching mortgage or lease/rent documents and utility documents



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

Verification, review, and award process – Award Phase

- Next Level reviewers also verified First Level checks plus:
 - Validated and matched mortgage or lease/rent documents and utility documents – opened uploaded documents and verified amount requested and then calculated the amount that was allowable based on receipts provided.
 - This process identified and verified the 520 eligible applicants



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

Applications for award

- 520 applications are recommended for funding
 - Total amount recommended for award: \$4.81 million
 - Amount recommended for rental / facility assistance: \$4.24 million
 - Amount recommended for utility assistance: \$567,000



Small Business Reemergence Program

Disbursement process

- Disbursement process will be handled through email correspondence and e-certification from the Company receiving the grant.
- Checks will be cut to the Company's service providers directly.
- Rent/facility payments mailed to Company, made out to third party.
- Award e-letters will go out daily in batches when complete.
- Company has seven days to respond with acceptance.



Small Business Reemergence Grant Program

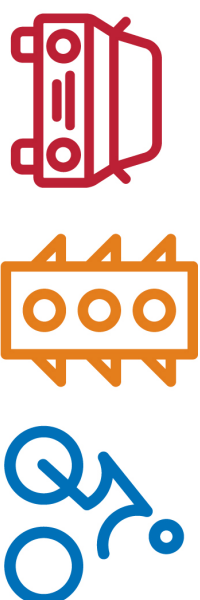
Top seven eligible and recommended awards

<u>Industry</u>	<u># of FTEs Pre-COVID</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1. Entertainment/recreation	50	\$284,068
2. Restaurant	75 (projected)	\$110,035
3. Education/Childcare	25	\$ 77,980
4. Education/Childcare	18	\$ 74,843
5. Healthcare	15	\$ 62,500
6. Manufacturing	32	\$ 59,400
7. Entertainment/recreation	1	\$ 52,111



Mesa CARES

Questions, Discussion, Direction



MESA MOVES

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

Mesa Moves Transportation Program

June 4, 2020

RJ Zeder, Transportation

Erik Guderian, Transportation

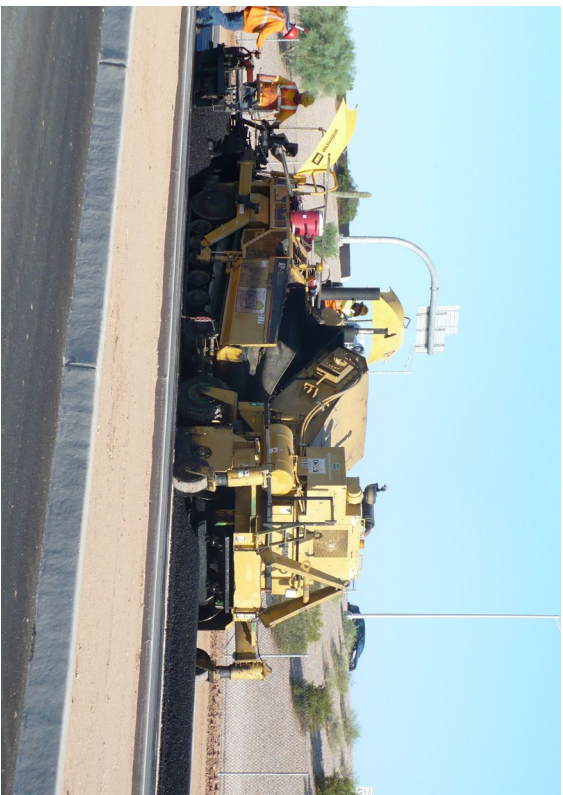
Scott Butler, Office of Management & Budget



MESA MOVES Transportation Program

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

Regional Roadway Improvements



Arterial Road Reconstruction



Active Transportation





MESA MOVES Regional Roadway Improvements

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

A transportation project serving regional transportation needs. Also includes City’s reimbursement for upsizing on developer-driven roadway projects (City Share Program).

Staff has identified **10 priority projects**

Examples:

Signal Butte: Williams Field to Germann

Broadway Road: Mesa Dr to Stapley

Est. Cost of Regional Roadway Improvements **\$97.0M**

Est. Reimbursement for Regional Roadways **\$63.3M**



MESA MOVES Arterial Road Reconstruction

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

The complete rebuild of the street at the end of its scheduled life. Reconstruction will include the removal and replacement of roadway subgrade materials and asphalt layer.

Examples: Greenfield Road; Southern to Brown
 Southern Avenue; Alma School to Extension

Est. Cost of Arterial Reconstruction Projects **\$45.0M**



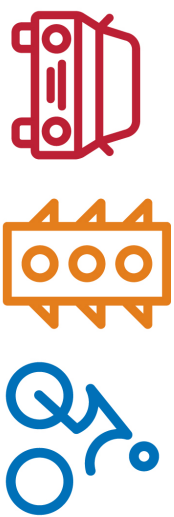
MESA MOVES Active Transportation

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

Any self-propelled, human-powered mode of transportation such as walking or cycling. Example project types include shared-use pathways along canals/freeways, separated bike lanes and enhanced pedestrian improvements.

Est. Cost of Active Transportation Projects **\$20.0M**





MESA MOVES

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

Transportation Program

Mesa Moves
Regional Roadway Improvements

\$97.0M

Mesa Moves
Arterial Road Reconstruction

\$45.0M

Mesa Moves
Active Transportation

\$20.0M

Total

\$162.0M



MESA MOVES

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

Transportation

Program

- **Leverage \$100.0M** bond authorization to complete significant roadway improvements.
- **Apply \$62.0M** of regional reimbursements to Mesa projects connecting people to places.

- **Deliver \$162.0M** Program:

Mesa Moves Regional Roadway Improvements

Mesa Moves Arterial Reconstruction

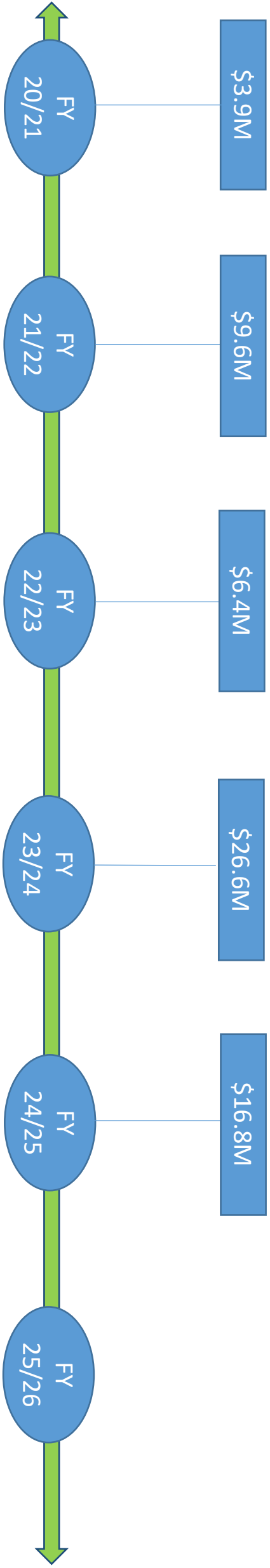
Mesa Moves Active Transportation



MESA MOVES
CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

ALCP Reimbursement Schedule

MAG’s Arterial Lifecycle Plan (ALCP) allows City’s to leverage regional sales tax dollars to widen existing streets, improve intersections, and construct new arterial segments. The timeline below reflects the current schedules for reimbursements included in the Mesa Moves Transportation program. The timeline below reflects \$63.3M of regional reimbursements.





Factors in Schedule Development

- Multi-year bond program (2021 – 2026) to manage voter authorization
- Planning for joint utility improvements
- Planning for federal / regional requirements
- Ensure available funding to support the operation/maintenance impact



MESA MOVES
CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

Planning for Utility Needs

Many roadway projects require utility improvements also be completed

Additional funding will need to be identified within the Utilities program for *Mesa Moves* projects

Schedule may be impacted by evolving needs and availability of funding for utility improvements



Signal Butte Road: Williams Field to Germann
Elliot Road: Ellsworth to Sossman

Design Right-of-Way / Easements Construction



MESA MOVES Regional Roadway Improvements

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

To advance the program, two projects are currently under design:

Signal Butte: Williams Field to Germann
Broadway Road: Mesa Dr to Stapley

The complexities of the design and right-of-way/easement acquisition process may result in project schedules shifting

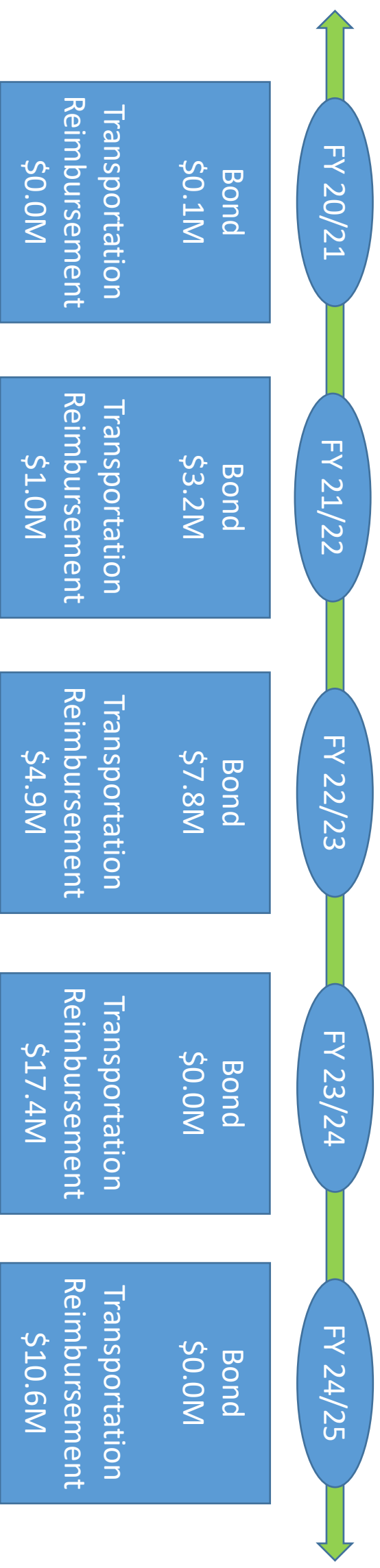
Staff will update City Council regarding schedule after fall election



MESA MOVES Arterial Road Reconstruction

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

The Transportation Dept maintains arterial roadways based on established industry standards for pavement condition. The Mesa Moves Transportation Program would provide \$45.0M to reconstruct arterials across the City.



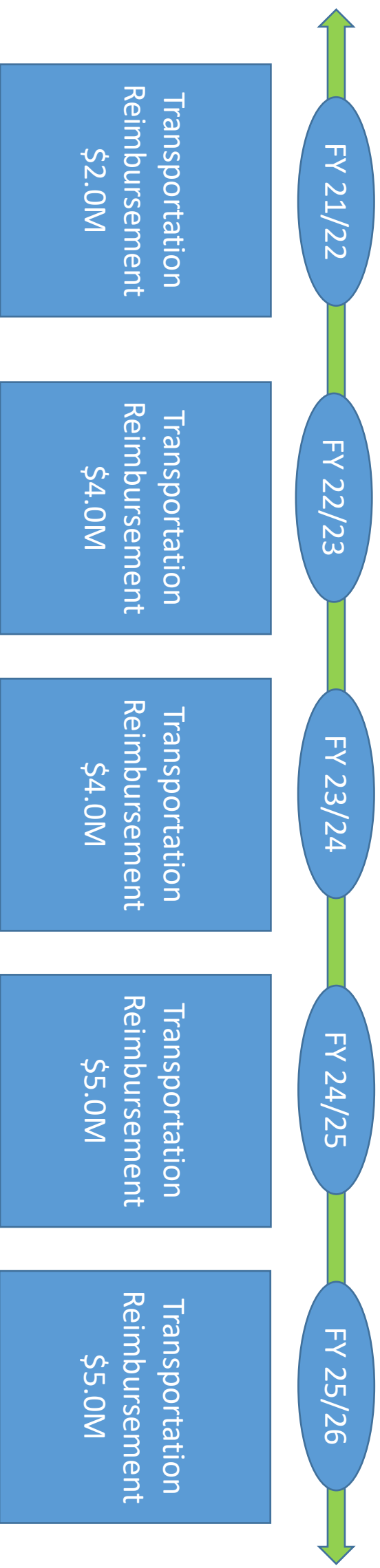


MESA MOVES *Active Transportation*

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES

Work with the community to solicit feedback.

Identify multi-modal projects that connect people to places.



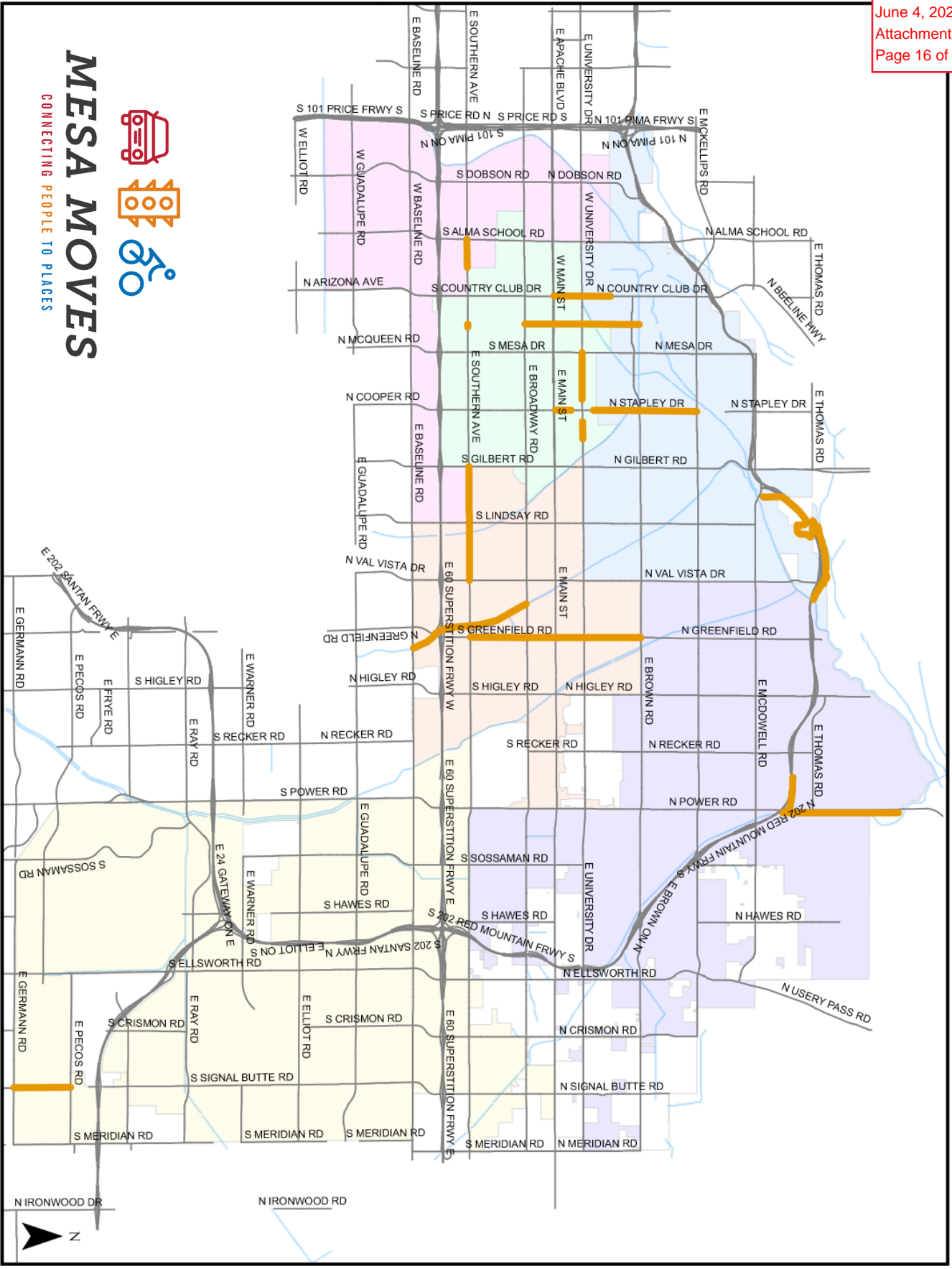
Questions?



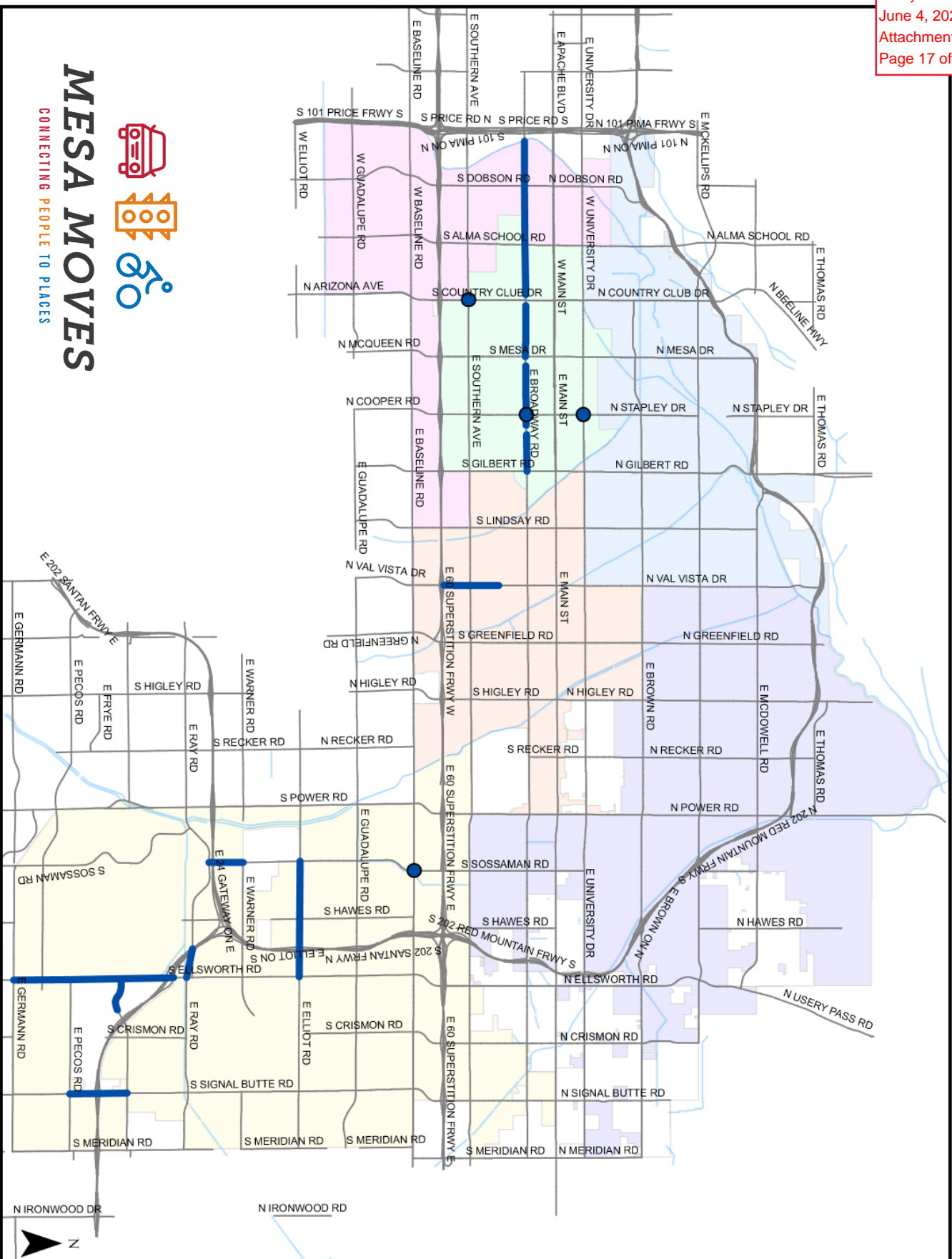
MESA MOVES CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES Transportation Program



Potential Arterial Reconstruction & Active Transportation Projects



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Potential Mesa Moves Transportation Program

