

1-4-2022

CITY CLERK

**Edwards,Michelle**

**From:** Bennett,Duke A  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 4, 2022 3:53 PM  
**To:** Tess Brooks  
**Cc:** Elliott,Earl; Loudermilk,Cheryl; Auler,Amy; Azar, George; Boland,Tammy; Crossen,Martha; Garrison,Neil; Nation,Todd; DeBaun,Curtis  
**Subject:** RE: \*Ext!\* Vigo County's Economic Equity Inclusion Plan

Tess,

Here is my response to your recent e-mail:

1. I have reviewed your recent submission of a proposal now called the V.C.M.E.E.P. I have the following initial question and request:
  - a. In your original proposal, there were 8 categories of proposed investment (Hope Business Center, Arts, Athletics, Child Care, Education, History, Housing & Sidewalks and Medical & Substance Abuse) and in your newest proposal I find 10 categories (HCC, Myers Surgical Associates, Phenrooks LLC, Morgue, Bodga, STIRR, Black Gold, C&C Imagining, Davis-Ross BLK History Museum and LDC). I can easily compare these with some of the initial proposal categories but there a few new ones and no available details (other than income and expenses categories). I am seeking some clarification.
  - b. The City of Terre Haute will need detailed business plans from any organization(s) seeking funding. Projected project income and expense spreadsheets are one small piece of a proposal. A detailed description of each program/project along with the formal organizational structure, how the projected revenues and expenses were determined, marketing plans, business operations plans, and implementation timelines for each program/project will be the minimum information required.
2. It is very important that you send your e-mails regarding ARPA funds to every City Council member at their city e-mail address. Note: I have copied the City Council on this response. Your previous messages and this current message are not getting to all members due to some incorrect e-mail addresses or because some council members are left off the list. In addition, it is important to use official city e-mail addresses so that these communications are a part of the official record and are transparent to the public. Here are the official City Council member, City Clerk and Mayor e-mail addresses:

Earl Elliott	<a href="mailto:earl.elliott@terrehaute.in.gov">earl.elliott@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Cheryl Loudermilk	<a href="mailto:cheryl.loudermilk@terrehaute.in.gov">cheryl.loudermilk@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Amy Auler	<a href="mailto:amy.auler@terrehaute.in.gov">amy.auler@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
George Azar	<a href="mailto:george.azar@terrehaute.in.gov">george.azar@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Tammy Boland	<a href="mailto:tammy.boland@terrehaute.in.gov">tammy.boland@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Martha Crossen	<a href="mailto:martha.crossen@terrehaute.in.gov">martha.crossen@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Neil Garrison	<a href="mailto:neil.garrison@terrehaute.in.gov">neil.garrison@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Todd Nation	<a href="mailto:todd.nation@terrehaute.in.gov">todd.nation@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Curtis DeBaun	<a href="mailto:curtis.debaun@terrehaute.in.gov">curtis.debaun@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Michelle Edwards	<a href="mailto:michelle.edwards@terrehaute.in.gov">michelle.edwards@terrehaute.in.gov</a>
Duke Bennett	<a href="mailto:duke.bennett@terrehaute.in.gov">duke.bennett@terrehaute.in.gov</a>

3. The Federal Government has still not provided the final rules related to spending of the ARPA Funds. The City Council recently approved the spending of some funds in 2021 to reimburse the city for 2020 revenue losses, payment of past COVID related expenses and a performance pay stipend for full & part time employees who worked in 2020/2021. These time sensitive detailed expenditures were reviewed by our outside financial consultants and attorneys prior to submitting them to the City Council for approval. If we find out later that something is not qualified then we will be required to repay the ARPA Fund. Note: We will not be making any additional (outside of city government) spending decisions until the final rules are official.
4. As you can imagine, the city has received numerous requests for financial assistance on many different projects and programs. The total informal inquiries/requests to date far exceed the available funds. The process we use to determine local entity funding eligibility has not yet been finalized. The final federal rules will confirm the structure we will work within and then the Indiana State Board of Accounts will confirm the state accounting rules that apply to the City of TH along with the detailed reporting mechanisms required and the audit process for the expended funds. We are pausing further spending until we get that final legal guidance.
5. I believe that the ARPA Review Team will begin meeting sometime during the first quarter of 2022 to start discussions regarding future community funding opportunities. Please keep in mind that the ARPA team's role is to review information and make recommendations to the entire City Council for their review, discussion and eventual approval. The City Council will have the opportunity to review all formal proposals and has the final vote on what is actually funded. There will be one spending appropriation made each fiscal year to encumber and allocate funds in that specific year only. All appropriated funds must be spent by 12/31 of the year they were appropriated or they will automatically revert back to the ARPA fund and will have to be appropriated by the City Council all over again the next fiscal year. Note: **All** ARPA funds must be encumbered by 12/31/2024 and spent by 12/31/2026.

I hope this information is helpful. I look forward to further dialog and much more detailed information (full business plan) clearly describing your project/program proposal.

Sincerely,

Mayor Duke A Bennett



**Mayor Duke A. Bennett**  
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Terre Haute, Indiana 47807  
P: 812-244-2303 F: 812-244-2305  
[Mayor@TerreHaute.IN.Gov](mailto:Mayor@TerreHaute.IN.Gov)



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**From:** Tess Brooks <tebroo3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 25, 2021 9:32 PM  
**To:** outside email <Mayor@terrehaute.in.gov>; Martha Crossen Gmail <marthacrossen1@gmail.com>; Bennett,Duke A <Duke.Bennett@TerreHaute.IN.Gov>; Neil Garrison <nvgarrison@gmail.com>; Witt, Steve <switt@terrehauteedc.com>; Boland,Tammy <Tammy.Boland@TerreHaute.IN.Gov>; Felling,Darrell <Darrell.Felling@TerreHaute.IN.Gov>; earl.elliott@terrehaute.in; Cheryl.Loudermilk@gmail.com; george.azar@terrehaute.in; Edwards,Michelle <Michelle.Edwards@TerreHaute.IN.Gov>  
**Cc:** Denise Batton <denisebatton1@yahoo.com>; Terry Clark <pastorterrym@yahoo.com>; tlm5@vigoschools.org; Perll Group <theperllgroup@gmail.com>; Theodore Brewer <teddybrewer812@gmail.com>; jbmyers3@hotmail.com; Mary Howard-Hamilton <Mary.Howard-Hamilton@indstate.edu>; crystal reynolds <crystalmreynolds@yahoo.com>; William

Morris <wimorris.attorney@gmail.com>; juwbaby22@yahoo.com; stephensconnects@gmail.com; Wendell Holman <wendellholman1@gmail.com>; hfgarrett47802@gmail.com; Lenore G. Williams <rev.lenore@gmail.com>; Elaine Gordon <southdistrict.indiana@gmail.com>; Rev. Maurice Reed <popp50@aol.com>  
**Subject:** \*Ext!\* Vigo County's Economic Equity Inclusion Plan

**\*\*External Email - Think Before You Click\*\***

- Helpdesk

"LDC" HCC Minority Infrastructure Plan

HCC EXP 1

HCC EXP 2

HCC EXP 3

HCC EXP 4

HCC EXP 5

HCC EXP 6

HCC EXP 7

HCC EXP 8

HCC EXP 9

HCC EXP 10

HCC EXP 11

Good evening all,

I hope all were able to enjoy this Christmas season. Many are aware of the ongoing economic impact of the Pandemic on the lives of people in this nation. Economically disenfranchised individuals struggle with poor health care, food insecurity, housing instability, deficiency in educational technology, and high mental & addiction situations. LDC and community partners have developed a strategic comprehensive plan by use of Hope Community Center to impact Vigo County presently and generations to come.

Respectfully, we request 12M in ARP funds. Please see the following attachments. We look forward to an opportunity at the next City Council meeting. Please add our request to the agenda. We have made a request for an appointment with Mayor Bennett as well.

Thank you,  
Economic Equity Inclusion Committee