

MEMO TO: EXECUTIVE BOARD

FROM: RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: MAY 13, 2021

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Please see the details below for the Executive Board meeting date, time, and location.

Friday, May 21, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. An Executive Session will begin at 9:00 a.m. The Regular Meeting (Public Session) will begin at 10:00 a.m. In-Person: 921 W. Thatcher Boulevard, Safford AZ

Via Zoom (Public Session):

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81424089278?pwd=Q28rT0IXYW1TY1RHUVZIRzI1OEpVZz09

Supervisor Paul David has graciously offered to host our meeting at the Graham County Administration Building in Safford. We will observe appropriate safety protocols including less than 10 individuals attending in-person on a first come, first served basis. All remaining Executive Board members and SEAGO staff may attend via Zoom. Members of the public will not be allowed to attend in person but are welcome to attend via Zoom. <u>The meeting address above is also a link</u> to a Google Map showing the meeting location. If you are unable to attend, please send an alternate to ensure that we will have a quorum at the meeting.

- The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a separate Executive Session conducted in-person and via Zoom for purposes of evaluating the Executive Director's performance. <u>If you intend to participate in the Executive Session via Zoom, you will need to request a separate Zoom meeting invitation.</u> To request the Zoom meeting invitation for the Executive Session, contact Heather Glenn at (520) 432-5301 Extension 207 or <u>hglenn@seago.org</u>. <u>Please make your</u> request before noon on May 20th to ensure you receive the invitation in a timely manner.
- The Regular Meeting of the Executive Board (Public Session) will begin at 10:00 a.m. All Executive Board members will automatically receive a Zoom meeting invitation for the Public Session with the email containing the Agenda Packet.

The Executive Board Packet will be sent to members through the e-mail (via a link to the packet posted on the SEAGO website). *We will not be mailing a hard copy of the packet unless you request one.* If you have any questions, please call me at (520) 432-5301 Extension 202. You can also send an e-mail to <u>rheiss@seago.org</u>.



EXECUTIVE BOARD AGENDA

9:00 A.M., FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021 IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM (see Cover Letter for Zoom details) 921 W. Thatcher Boulevard, Safford AZ

I.	CAI		O ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM	Chair Laws	S
II.	A.1.	., the	TIVE SESSION: Pursuant to A.R.S. §38.431.03 Subsection e Executive Board may adjourn to Executive Session for the e of evaluating the performance of the Executive Director.		S
III.	PUE	BLIC	SESSION – 10:00 A.M.		
			onvene to Public Session/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call	Chair Laws	S
			ussion and possible action relating to the performance of Executive Director.	Chair Laws	S
IV.	CAI		O THE PUBLIC		
v.	ME	MBE	ER ENTITIES' DISCUSSION (Common Critical Issues)	Chair Laws	S
VI.			NTATION : Independent Auditor's Report and Audited al Statements for the year ending June 30, 2020	Jim Usevit	ch
VII.	AC	ΓΙΟΙ	N ITEMS	Pa	ge No.
	1.		onsent Agenda Approval of the February 26, 2021 Minutes	Chair Laws	1
	2.	Fis	scal Year 2022 Budget Items		
			Sustainability of Fund Balance (discussion only)	Randy Heiss	7
			Discussion and possible action regarding the FY 2022 Assessment Schedule	Randy Heiss	10
			Discussion and possible action regarding Resolution No. 2021-02 EDA Grant Authorization	Maria Porter	12
		d.	Discussion and possible action regarding the proposed FY 2022 SEAGO Budget	Dina Curtiss	14

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	3.	Discussion and possible action to award an Agreement for Auditing Services to Colby & Powell, PLC	Randy Heiss	16
	4.	Discussion and possible action to approve Private Sector Representative nominations for Graham, Greenlee and Santa Cruz Counties	Randy Heiss	22
	5.	Discussion and possible action to approve the SFY 2022 – SFY 2025 Area Plan on Aging	Laura Villa	24
	6.	Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 AAA Subaward Recommendations	Laura Villa	30
	7.	Discussion and possible action to approve the 2021-22 Regional Transportation Coordination Plan	Chris Vertrees	35
VIII	.INF	ORMATION ITEMS		
	A. B. C. E. F. G.	Future Meeting Dates Strategic Plan Progress Report Quarterly Finance Report Community Development Report SEAGO Economic Development District Report AAA Updates Transportation Program Updates	Randy Heiss Randy Heiss Dina Curtiss Keith Dennis Maria Porter Laura Villa Chris Vertrees	36 37 47 49 52 55 64
IX.	RTA	AC REPORT	Kevin Adam	
X.	STA	FF ANNOUNCEMENTS / CURRENT EVENTS	Chair Laws	
XI.	FUT	URE AGENDA ITEMS	Chair Laws	
XII.	ADJ	IOURNMENT	Chair Laws	

DIRECTION MAY BE GIVEN TO SEAGO STAFF ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA.

Individuals with disabilities who require special accommodations or who have limited English proficiency and wish to have an interpreter may contact Heather Glenn at (520) 432-5301 extension 207 at least 72 hours before the meeting time to request such accommodations.

Individuals wishing to participate in the meeting telephonically may do so by contacting Heather Glenn at (520) 432-5301 extension 207. Contact must be made at least 48 hours before the meeting in order to obtain the call-in information. Please note that the option to participate telephonically may not be available unless requested as instructed above.

Si necesita acomodaciones especiales o un intérprete para esta conferencia, debe ponerse en contacto con Heather Glenn al número (520) 432-5301, extensión 207, por lo menos setenta y dos (72) horas antes de la conferencia.



MEMO TO:EXECUTIVE BOARDFROM:RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORDATE:MAY 13, 2020SUBJECT:ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

As requested, this memorandum provides information about the number of Administrative Council members or their delegates attending their May 6th meeting and the manner of their participation in said meeting:

Member Entity Representative	In-Person	Electronic
Number of Administrative Council members present and voting:	1	8
Basteen, John – Town of Duncan	0	1
Bigman, Barney – San Carlos Apache Tribe	0	1
Blaschke, Caleb – City of Willcox (Chair)	1	0
Brown, Heath – Town of Thatcher	0	0
Cassella, John – City of Safford	0	0
Coxworth, Dan – Cochise County	0	1
Harvey, Suzanne – Town of Huachuca City	0	1
Kissinger, John – City of Nogales	0	0
Lewis, Sean – Town of Pima	0	0
McLachlan, Matt – City of Sierra Vista	0	1
Pauken, Steve - City of Bisbee	0	1
Pedroza, Luis – City of Douglas	0	0
Perez, Rudy – Town of Clifton	0	1
Presti, Charissa – Tombstone	0	0
Rapier, Derek – Greenlee County	0	0
Robinson, Ronald – Town of Patagonia	0	1
St. John, Jennifer – Santa Cruz County	0	0
Vivian, Vicki – City of Benson (Vice-Chair)	0	0
Welker, Dustin – Graham County	0	0

Attachments: None.

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below:

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SEAGO EXECUTIVE BOARD ZOOM MEETING FEBRUARY 26, 2021

- **OFFICERS PRESENT:** Ortega, Richard Vice-Mayor, City of Safford (*Chair*) Garino, Arturo – Mayor, City of Nogales (2nd Vice-Chair) Gomez, David – Supervisor, Greenlee County (Secretary)
- MEMBERS PRESENT: Bracker, Bruce Supervisor, Santa Cruz County Budge, Ken – Mayor, City of Bisbee Carlton, Eddy – Councilmember, Town of Thatcher David, Paul – Supervisor, Graham County English, Ann – Supervisor, Cochise County Huish, Don – Mayor, City of Douglas Montoya, Luis – Mayor, Town of Clifton Thurman, Anne – Mayor, Town of Duncan Valle, Dan – Cochise County Private Sector Representative
- STAFF PRESENT:Curtiss, Dina Accounting Manager
Dennis, Keith Community Development Program Manager
Glenn, Heather Administrative Assistant
Heiss, Randy Executive Director
Porter, Maria Economic Development Program Manager
Vertrees, Chris Transportation Program Administrator
Villa, Laura AAA Program Director
- GUESTS: Adam, Kevin, RTAC Meyers, Cindy – AAA Readi Meals Program

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. MEMBER ENTITIES' DISCUSSION

Chair Richard Ortega, Safford, stated Safford is working with merchants to install parklets along Main Street. At the last Council meeting, the City adopted a Resolution supporting legislation to enable Eastern Arizona College (EAC) to become a four-year college. **Mayor Arturo Garino, Nogales,** informed the members that Nogales may possibly have asylum seekers coming to their border, which may have a negative impact across the entire SEAGO region. **Mayor Luis Montoya, Clifton**, advised that Greenlee County leads the state and the nation in their handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

III. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one from the public was present.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING – SEAGO'S application to the Arizona Department of Housing for CARES Act CDBG-CV 1 and 2 funding for Emergency Subsistence Payments

Chair Ortega opened the Public Hearing at 10:07 and called for public comment. Since no one from the public was present, Chair Ortega closed the Public Hearing at 10:08.

V. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the November 5, 2020 Minutes
- b. Nomination to the Advisory Council on Aging (Willcox)

Chair Ortega called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Supervisor English made the motion; seconded by Dan Valle.

Motion:Supervisor Ann EnglishSecond:Dan ValleAction:Unanimous

 Discussion and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2021 - 01 authorizing SEAGO's application to ADOH for CARES Act CDBG-CV 1 and 2 funding for Emergency Subsistence Payments

Keith Dennis provided some background on Cares Act CDBG funding for which ADOH issued a notice of Funding Availability in December 2020. He advised there are two lines of funding and SEAGO's application is for emergency subsistence payments (ESP) which will provide assistance to individuals or families for items such as food, clothing, utility payments, rental payments or mortgage payments for up to six consecutive months. Keith explained that Santa Cruz County has applied on their own for this funding and SEAGO wishes to apply for \$750,000 to assist residents in the remaining three counties in the SEAGO region. He anticipates serving approximately 10,000 applicants across the region, including the San Carlos Apache Tribe.

Mayor Montoya asked if the grant has been awarded or if SEAGO is applying for the funds. He also asked if it is a competitive grant and when SEAGO expects to implement the assistance, provided funding is awarded. Keith responded that we are seeking approval to apply for the funds and that grant(s) will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Implementation timeframe is unknown at this time. Dan Valle inquired what the process will be for dispersing the funds. Keith explained that we are in the process of developing the application documents and we must guarantee that there is no duplication of funding. He advised that if we get a great deal of participation, there may be need to hire a part-time person to assist with the program, and the monies for that position are included in the request. Supervisor David thanked Keith, Randy and SEAGO for being proactive to assist the region.

Supervisor Gomez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021 – 01 authorizing SEAGO to submit an application to the Arizona Department of Housing for CARES Act CDBG-CV 1 and 2 funding for Emergency Subsistence Payments as described and presented.

Motion:Supervisor David GomezSecond:Mayor Arturo GarinoAction:Unanimous

3. Election of Officers for Calendar Year 2021

Randy Heiss stated that February is the month for the annual election of Executive Board officers and explained how the process is outlined in the By-Laws. He explained that he was able to confirm with the existing officers that they are pleased to continue serving in their roles as outlined in the By-Laws; however, he welcomed nominations from the floor for anyone else who may be interested.

Chair: Cochise County Officer (Willcox Mayor Mike Laws) First Vice-Chair: Santa Cruz County Officer (Nogales Mayor Arturo Garino) Second Vice-Chair: Greenlee County Officer (Supervisor David Gomez) Treasurer: Graham County Officer (Safford Vice-Mayor Richard Ortega) Supervisor English stated that Randy had gone to the effort of confirming that the current slate of officers are willing to continue in their new roles and are aware of the duties and time commitments of same. She then made a motion to elect the proposed slate of Executive Board officers for calendar year 2021.

Motion:Supervisor Ann EnglishSecond:Dan ValleAction:Unanimous

4. Discussion and possible action to approve a Request for Proposals for Auditing Services

Randy explained every five years staff must seek Executive Board approval to issue a Request for Proposals for Auditing Services to have an auditing firm in place to perform the audit for the current fiscal year. He also requested that a member of the Executive Board serve on the evaluation team and to contact him if anyone is interested.

Mayor Montoya made a motion to approve staff to issue a Request for Proposals for Audit Services.

Motion:Mayor Luis MontoyaSecond:Mayor Ken BudgeAction:Unanimous

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of a modular office building and the expenses to relocate the structure and make associated improvements

Randy reminded everyone that at the Strategic Planning Retreat last year, he had informed participants that the lease for the AAA offices would expire June of 2022. He described the current AAA office situation and presented a slide show of the current conditions. One option would be renegotiating a lease of the current facilities, but he believes AAA has outgrown the space so he has been looking at other available options. He researched prices for commercial office space in another city (Sierra Vista), as there is no suitable office space in Bisbee. However, it would be expensive; \$13,000 - \$26,000 per year, plus there may need to be leasehold improvements done to make the space work (ADA accessibility; IT issues, storage).

Randy explained the third option is creating another facility for AAA on the current property owned by SEAGO. He outlined the possible costs to build from scratch, and determined this may not be cost-effective. He stated that he discovered a modular office building for sale in Sierra Vista that might work and made inquiries. Randy presented a slide show with photos of the modular building and compared it to the existing AAA office space. He explained the cost to purchase the building is \$40,000 and there would be additional costs for improvements. He explained that originally, he had planned to asked to use money from the fund balance to pay for the building; however, AAA had monies from ADES that hadn't been spent and SEAGO asked if they could be carried over to fund this project. ADES authorized the funds for the project but they must be used by June 30th. Anything left over by the end of June must be returned to the state. He estimated that there may be expenses of approximately \$30,000 that won't meet that deadline, and he would need to use fund balance for those.

He explained that this project would have to be done in steps and that it could not be put out to bid as one complete package. He plans to get as much done as he could by June 30 and then fall back on the fund balance for the remaining work. He explained that Administrative Council member Matt McLachlan (Sierra Vista) had expressed concerns that the building may not meet commercial code requirements and made a motion to recommend approval of the purchase if the Bisbee building official verified it would to meet their building meets the condition placed upon the Administrative Council's recommendation to the Executive Board. Supervisor David commented it is serendipity or luck that Randy fell into this option with funding

provided by the ADES, and that he has already done some preliminary work on the project. Representative Valle asked what fiscal year this has been budgeted for and Randy responded that it is the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, which is why time is of the essence. Mayor Montoya asked if there was a conflict with any procurement requirements for a bidding process. Randy explained that because of expediency reasons, there is a provision in SEAGO's procedures which allows for him to deviate from the bidding process if conditions such as these render it impracticable. Mayor Budge asked about the timeframe the current AAA offices might be vacated and Randy estimated it would take until approximately the first of the new year (2022).

Mayor Huish made a motion to authorize the purchase of the modular office building and the expenses to relocate the structure and complete the associated improvements as presented by staff.

Motion:Mayor Donald HuishSecond:Mayor Arturo GarinoAction:Unanimous

6. Discussion and possible action to recommend approval of a proposed update to the SEAGO Classification Plan

Randy explained the importance of upward mobility for employees in any organization so that they have a path to professional growth and don't have to find opportunities outside of the organization. He explained that SEAGO has grown a substantial GIS library thanks to our current technical services and GIS coordinator, John Merideth. Randy explained that John has surpassed the level of technician/coordinator with the skills, experience and knowledge he has gained and utilized. In the SEAGO Strategic Plan, Goal #1 for all the programs is to identify, provide and enhance services and resources to address the sustainability of our communities and constituents. With GIS interwoven in just about every aspect of government, the GIS program enhances services to our members who do not possess that capacity internally, and provides opportunities for increased data sharing and coordination with those who do. For these reasons, Randy requested approval of the Classification Plan update.

Mayor Montoya made a motion to approve the proposed Classification Plan Update as presented by staff.

Motion:Mayor Luis MontoyaSecond:Dan ValleAction:Unanimous

7. Discussion and possible action to recommend approval to purchase a vapor sorption analyzer for the READI Meals program development

Laura Villa provided some background on the history of the READI Meals program and how the program has progressed at each of the congregate meal sites. She introduced Cindy Meyers, who has worked on the program as a consultant. Cindy explained that there was no plan in place to ensure food safety for the freezedried foods at the congregate sites. She stated that food safety plans would need to be developed to prove that the freeze dried foods would be safe to pass out for the participants to eat. The hazard analysis cannot be accomplished without this piece of equipment; the food would have to be outsourced for testing and the cost of doing that would be prohibitive. Laura stated that ADES supported the purchase of the equipment and authorized the funds. Mayor Montoya commented that this equipment was costly. Laura and Cindy stated that the machine will cost \$70,000 with a discount. It will be kept in the SEAGO region and Cindy explained the benefits of partnering with the Meter Group; the technology, access to their food scientists, and software for data and reports for Health Department and FDA Auditors. Mayor Montoya asked if a warranty and maintenance was included. Cindy responded that the VSA is state of the art equipment and that there is an annual calibration fee of approximately \$1000. Supervisor David wanted to know if the testing is done by batch or packet. Cindy answered that it is batch tested. Laura added that this equipment will help AAA seek grant funds so that they don't have to depend fully on ADES' financial support. Mayor Budge inquired if the batches are tracked; Cindy explained that tracking is the main purpose of the water activity meters.

Mayor Montoya made a motion to authorize the purchase of the vapor sorption analyzer for the READI Meals program development as presented by staff.

Motion:Mayor Luis MontoyaSecond:Dan ValleAction:Unanimous

8. Discussion and possible action to approve the updated Transportation Programming Procedures

Chris Vertrees explained that SEAGO receives approximately \$910,000 in surface transportation apportionments annually. In most cases, the funds are used for bigger projects which eliminates smaller entities. At the 2020 Strategic Planning Retreat, members requested it be researched how to make the process more equitable for smaller jurisdictions. The committee assigned to Transportation made the following recommendations: 1. Cap STBG project requests; 2. Eliminate Right of Way acquisition as an eligible activity for use of local STBG funds; 3. Establish a rotation of STBG funds by County; and 4. Prioritize the use of ADOT's HURF Exchange Program to develop and fund local projects. He explained the process to gather input through the Transportation Advisory Committee and provided background on how the updated programming procedures were created.

Mayor Montoya made a motion to approve updated STBG Project Programming Procedures.

Motion:Mayor Luis MontoyaSecond:Supervisor Ann EnglishAction:Unanimous

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Future Meeting Dates

Randy Heiss stated he was still unsure when the Board would be able to meet in person again. He directed members to packet page 43 for a list of upcoming scheduled meetings. He requested that the Board officers mark their calendars for April 1, 2021 as there will be business that needs to be addressed by the Joint Committees prior to the next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting.

B. Strategic Plan Implementation Progress Report

Randy Heiss advised that any significant progress is highlighted in his written report and provided a verbal overview on the status of certain key Objectives and Tactics.

C. Quarterly Finance Report

Dina Curtiss provided an update and responded to questions.

D. Community Development Program Update

Keith Dennis provided an update and responded to questions.

E. SEAGO Economic Development District Report

Maria Porter provided an update and responded to questions.

F. AAA Updates

Laura Villa provided an update and responded to questions.

G. Transportation Program Updates

Chris Vertrees provided an update and responded to questions.

VII. RTAC REPORT

Kevin Adam provided an update and answered questions.

VIII. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS / CURRENT EVENTS

Randy Heiss stated that the Biden administration is allocating more COVID-19 relief funds to EDA which are expected to be directed towards public works infrastructure and possibly for broadband. Kevin Adam added that there is a bill coming forward proposing \$10 million for Arizona specifically for broadband in the rural areas.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Randy thanked Supervisor David for his email regarding nominations to fill the Graham County Private Sector Representative seat on the Executive Board. He advised the Santa Cruz County Private Sector term ends today, so that seat will also need to be filled. We will be bringing the FY2022 budget forward for approval along with the annual EDA planning funds. We will be looking to adopt the EDA comprehensive economic development strategy so that we are awarded more points when applying for certain grants. We will also be reporting the results of the Audit RFP that was just approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ortega adjourned the meeting at 12:22 p.m.



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
FROM:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	FISCAL YEAR 2022 FUND BALANCE USE

I've attached a memo entitled *Sustainability of the SEAGO Fund Balance*. The memo is designed to provide you with an overview of fund balance increases (or uses) from FY 2009 through FY 2020 in order to guide decisions as to how much of the fund balance should be used in balancing the annual budget when such use is requested.

In recent years, we've included a contingency line item (typically \$100,000) in our annual budgeting process to provide flexibility for unknown, non-recurring expenses that may occur during the fiscal year. Those of you who have been participating in the process to develop our 2021 – 2025 CEDS are aware that SEAGO intends to pursue EDA technical assistance funding to hire a consultant to perform a regional broadband study. The EDA grant will require matching funds, most (or all) of which may be covered through in-kind contributions consisting of the time of our member entities' staff spend participating in the study efforts (as opposed to a special member entity assessment). However, should in-kind contributions prove insufficient to meet the matching requirements associated with the EDA grant, we feel it's prudent to pad our contingency budget by an additional \$50,000 to be used as a cash match if it's needed. Therefore, our budget proposal includes a total of \$150,000 from the fund balance that could potentially be used for contingency items in FY 2022.

Fortunately, our fund balance is quite healthy and has recovered from the fund balance that was used to purchase the land, buildings and improvements that we now enjoy as our Main Office location. There was fund balance surplus of \$268,961 in FY 2020 bringing the total available fund balance to \$1,858,937 at year-end. This represents the largest fund balance in the history of SEAGO which currently stands at 84% above the minimum amount required by the fund balance policy adopted by the Executive Board in February 2015.

Substantial increases (or uses) of fund balance over the past twelve years are explained in the footnotes of the attached memo. I'll be pleased to answer any questions you may have at our meeting.

Attachments: Sustainability of Fund Balance memo, April 16, 2021.

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below:



MEMO TO: EXECUTIVE BOARD

FROM: RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: MAY 13, 2021

SUBJECT: SUSTAINABILITY OF THE SEAGO FUND BALANCE

The purpose of this memorandum is to enable the Administrative Council and Executive Board to better understand the uses of fund balance (if any) in prior years, the amount of fund balance currently available, and to provide a projection of how long uses of fund balance may be sustained. This information is intended to guide decisions as to how much of the fund balance should be used in balancing the annual budget when such use is requested. The table below provides an overview of the increases (or uses) of fund balance over the last twelve fiscal years:

	End of Year Fu	und Balances ¹	
Fiscal Year Ending	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance	Fund Balance Surplus or (Use)
6/30/2009	\$ 1,681,043	\$ 1,921,455	\$ 240,412
6/30/2010	\$ 1,921,455	\$ 1,877,819	(\$ 43,636)
6/30/2011 (Restated ²)	\$ 1,451,014	\$ 1,297,124	(\$ 153,890 ³)
6/30/2012	\$ 1,297,124	\$ 1,298,000	\$ 876
6/30/2013	\$ 1,298,000	\$ 1,136,413	(\$ 161,587 ⁴)
6/30/2014	\$ 1,136,413	\$ 1,319,039	\$ 182,626
6/30/2015	\$ 1,319,039	\$ 1,382,732	\$ 63,693
6/30/2016	\$ 1,382,732	\$ 1,414,782	\$ 32,050
6/30/2017	\$ 1,414,782	\$ 1,636,984	\$ 222,202 ⁵
6/30/2018	\$ 1,636,984	\$ 1,548,482	(\$ 88,502 ⁶)
6/30/2019	\$ 1,548,482	\$ 1,589,976	\$ 41,494
6/30/2020	\$ 1,589,976	\$ 1,858,937	\$ 268,961

The fund balance policy established by the Executive Board on February 27, 2015 sets the minimum unrestricted fund balance in the General Fund at fifty percent of the prior fiscal year's total operating expenditures. In FY 2020, operating expenditures were **\$1,701,552**. Fifty percent of the FY 2020 operating expenditures is **\$850,776**. The amount of fund balance available at the end of FY 2020 (\$1,858,937) amounts to **109%** of that year's actual operating expenditures. Under this scenario, there would conceptually be **\$1,008,161** available for use in future budget years before

¹ All figures are from audited financial statements for said years.

In FY 11, the Arizona Department of Housing eliminated SEAGO from the Save My Home Program and recovered \$426,804 on deposit with SEAGO so that this funding could be used for foreclosure prevention assistance in the State's urbanized counties.

³ Approximately \$152,000 of this amount was from the purchase of the SEAGO office building and associated property.

⁵ FY 18 Legacy Foundation grant funds were received in May 2017 and posted as FY 17 revenues instead of deferred revenue for work to be performed in FY 18. Actual FY 17 fund balance surplus would have been \$22,202.

⁶ Had the Legacy Foundation funds received in FY 17 been posted as deferred revenue for use in FY 18, there would have been a fund balance surplus of approximately \$111,498 (see footnote 5 above).

⁴ Due to expenditures for improvements to the SEAGO office building plus amounts approved for program use in the FY 13 budget.

the minimum level of fund balance is reached.

The table below provides an overview of how long it would take to reduce the existing fund balance of \$1,858,937 to \$850,776 (the current minimum required) under a number of different deficit spending scenarios:

	Impact of Fund Bal	ance Use
Ar	nnual Use of Fund Balance	Number of Years
\$	5,000 per year	202
\$	10,000 per year	101
\$	15,000 per year	67
\$	20,000 per year	50
\$	25,000 per year	40
\$	30,000 per year	34
\$	35,000 per year	29
\$	40,000 per year	25
\$	45,000 per year	22
\$	50,000 per year	20

As shown in the table above, SEAGO would be able to operate for a considerable period of time with moderate use of fund balance and still maintain an operating reserve of \$850,776. However, because almost all of SEAGO's programs operate on a cost reimbursement basis, limited unrestricted revenue is generated in a given year that can be used to cover any program deficits that may occur. As a Council of Governments, SEAGO has no taxation authority, and other than the annual assessment to our member entities, CDBG project administration fees, and a few limited programs within the AAA, SEAGO has no predictable source of unrestricted revenue. Therefore, at this time, there is no use of fund balance that could be considered 'sustainable' in the purest sense of the term.

As a result, SEAGO intends to adhere to the following guidelines to sustain the existing fund balance for as long as possible:

- 1) Track the use of fund balance annually in order to monitor the level of fund balance available for future years.
- 2) Present annual budgets that minimize the use of fund balance to the extent practicable.
- 3) Clearly identify any proposed use of fund balance in the annual budget approval process so that the Administrative Council and Executive Board have the option to control the amount of fund balance used.
- 4) Operate programs within their approved budgets and evaluate accordingly.
- 5) Continue seeking new grants and funding sources, and/or developing new programs and services that generate revenue to replenish any fund balance used.
- 6) Expense depreciation of buildings and improvements to the benefiting programs and use those funds to replenish fund balance that was used to purchase and improve these assets.

Attachments: None

Action Requested:

Information Only Action Requested Below:



FROM: RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: MAY 13, 2021

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2022 ASSESSMENTS

The proposed Assessment Schedule for Fiscal Year 2022 is attached for your review and recommendation.

At this time, there are no anticipated increases in the amounts charged for SEAGO member entity assessments. To the best of my knowledge, there are no proposed changes to the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Organization boundary that would impact the RTAC assessments in FY 2022. It's also my understanding that the RTAC Board will not consider increases to their assessments for FY 2022. In addition, we are not expecting any changes to the amount of matching funds required for our annual EDA planning grant.

As a result of the above, the FY 2022 Assessment Schedule remains unchanged from the current fiscal year. I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have at our meeting.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Fiscal Year Assessment Schedule to the Executive Board.

Attachments: FY 2022 Assessment Schedule.

Action Requested

Information Only

Action Requested Below:

A motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Assessment Schedule.

FY 2022 ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE														
SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization Draft Dues and Assessment Schedule														
		Draf	t Dues and A	ssessment S	chedule									
			Fiscal	Year 2022										
	2015 OEPS Est.	SEAGO Member Dues	ED Planning Assessment	RTAC Assessment		Member Percent of Total FY2022 Assessment	Total FY2021 SEAGO Assessment	Total FY2010 SEAGO Assessment						
SEAGO Member	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)						
Benson	4,999	\$1,750	\$1,054	\$147	\$2,951		\$2,951	\$2,055						
Bisbee Douglas	5,297 16,956	\$1,442 \$3,815	\$1,117 \$3,577	\$156 \$499	\$2,715 \$7,890		\$2,715	\$2,305						
Huachuca City	16,956	\$3,815 \$897	\$3,577 \$378	\$499 \$0	\$7,890 \$1,275		\$7,890 \$1,275	\$7,078 \$747						
Sierra Vista	44,183	\$3,314	\$378 \$1,977	\$0 \$0	\$1,275		\$1,275	\$17,798						
Tombstone	1,333	\$1,066	\$281	\$0 \$39	\$1,387	1.75%	\$1,387	\$17,758 \$579						
Willcox	3,636	\$1,000	\$767	\$39 \$107	\$2,146		\$2,146	\$1,529						
Cochise County*	50,914	\$2,037	\$8,299	\$777	\$11,113		\$11,113	\$21,406						
Pima	2,553	\$894	\$539	\$75	\$1,507	1.91%	\$1,507	\$954						
Safford	9,659	\$2,630	\$2,037	\$284	\$4,951	6.26%	\$4,951	\$3,859						
Thatcher	5,125	\$1,396	\$1,081	\$151	\$2,627	3.32%	\$2,627	\$1,992						
San Carlos Apache Tribe	5,029	\$1,369	\$1,061	\$148	\$2,578	3.26%	\$2,578	\$2,365						
Graham County*	16,109	\$3,625	\$3,398	\$474	\$7,496	9.48%	\$7,496	\$5,882						
Clifton	4,510	\$1,579	\$951	\$133	\$2,662	3.37%	\$2,662	\$1,281						
Duncan	802	\$642	\$169	\$24	\$834	1.05%	\$834	\$290						
Greenlee County*	5,243	\$1,428	\$519	\$154	\$2,101	2.66%	\$2,101	\$1,836						
Nogales	21,910	\$4,382	\$2,169	\$644	\$7,195	9.10%	\$7,195	\$8,486						
Patagonia	963	\$770	\$203	\$28	\$1,002	1.27%	\$1,002	\$370						
Santa Cruz County*	27,397	\$4,794	\$5,779	\$805	\$11,379	14.38%	\$11,379	\$10,275						
SEAGO Region Totals	228,412	\$39,101	\$35,357	\$4,644	\$79,102	100.00%	\$79,102	\$91,089						
*Unincorporated area only														

Notes to Assessments:

(a) Most calculations are based on the 2015 OEPS Population Estimates for each member entity. Mid-decade population estimates will be used until the 2020 Census figures are available. No change from FY 2021

(b) In this column, SEAGO Member Dues are based on population blocks with the larger entities paying less per capita, and the smaller entities who generally need more services paying more per capita. No change from FY2021.

(c) The assessment provides matching funds for the EDA planning grant and related economic development activities. Calculations are based on a per capita rate, with entities who have economic development staff paying less per capita and the remaining entities paying more. No change from FY 2021.

(d) RTAC assessment is based on the non-urbanized population of the region and the new rate of 9.8 cents per capita (increased from 8.2 CPC) as approved by the RTAC Board. The SVMPO pays its dues directly to the RTAC and its population increased by 14,348 due to an expansion of its planning boundary in 2018. No change from FY 2021.

(e) The total for this column will depend on any final adjustments to the calculations of individual program assessment columns and decisions to use fund balance rather than assessments to cover anticipated expenses. However, no changes are anticipated.

(f) This column displays the percentage of the total FY 2022 assessment each member's assessment represents.

(g) Information is provided to compare total FY2022 and total FY2021 assessment. No change from FY 2021.

(h) Information is provided so comparisons can be drawn between total FY2022 assessment and total FY2010 assessment.



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	MARIA PORTER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02

Attached for your consideration is SEAGO Resolution No. 2021-02. This resolution is for an Economic Development Administration (EDA) partnership planning assistance grant for funds in the amount of \$75,000 to continue the ability of SEAGO to administer the Economic Development District (EDD) program.

The SEAGO EDD utilizes these funds not only for existing planning work but also possible expanded activities which will further the cause of economic development. The SEAGO EDD will utilize the grant proceeds, and requisite matching funds to implement and sustain regional solutions to foster and promote economic development initiatives throughout the four counties of the SEAGO region.

The Resolution commits up to \$35,357 to allow SEAGO EDD to meet the subject grant's matching requirements and perform related economic development activities. The match is funded through an annual Economic Development Assessment paid by SEAGO member entities.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-02 to the Executive Board.

Attachment: Resolution No. 2021-02

Action Requested:

Information Only

 \boxtimes Action Requested Below:

A motion to approve Resolution 2021–02 for an EDA Partnership Planning Assistance Grant in the amount of \$75,000 and matching funds of up to \$35,357 funded through annual assessments paid by SEAGO member entities.



SEAGO Member Entities

Cochise County Benson Bisbee Douglas Huachuca City Sierra Vista Tombstone Willcox Graham County Pima Safford San Carlos Apache Tribe Thatcher Greenlee County Clifton Duncan Santa Cruz County Nogales Patagonia

SEAGO Main Office

Administration Community and Economic Dev. Transportation

1403 W. Hwy 92 Bisbee, AZ 85603 520-432-5301 520-432-5858 Fax

Area Agency on Aging Office

300 Collins Road Bisbee, AZ 85603 520-432-5301 520-432-9168 Fax

www.seago.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GOVERNMENTS ORGANIZATION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PARTNERSHIP PLANNING ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDS FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, the SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) has been designated by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) as an Economic Development District (EDD) for the four-county region of Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz Counties; and

WHEREAS, SEAGO is desirous of continuing and expanding activities to advance the economic development of these four counties; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce has partnership planning assistance grants which will cultivate long-range and regional planning among the SEAGO member entities to alleviate economic distress; and

WHEREAS, the current economic distress in these four counties is demonstrated by the depletion of full time high-wage jobs, continuing market stagnation of commercial and residential properties, unresolved international border issues, unacceptable unemployment levels, lack of business diversity, and persistent low/median family incomes in the majority of the SEAGO Region; and

WHEREAS, the region-wide economic distress factors described above are exacerbated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the SEAGO Executive Board hereby authorizes an application to be made to the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA for a Fiscal Year 2022 planning grant in the amount of \$75,000; and

THAT, up to \$35,357 is hereby committed to assure that SEAGO meets the matching funds requirement for the EDA grant, funded through annual assessment (membership) dues paid by its members; and

THAT, the SEAGO Executive Director is hereby authorized to sign and execute all application forms, contracts, or documents for the receipt and use of these funds.

Passed and adopted by the SEAGO Executive Board on this 21st day of May, 2021.

Michael Laws, Executive Board Chair Randy Heiss, Executive Director



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	DINA CURTISS, ACCOUNTING MANAGER
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET

Attached is the proposed SEAGO budget for Fiscal Year 2022. The assumptions used in developing the FY 2022 budget are as follows:

- SEAGO member assessments remain unchanged from FY 2021.
- Congress will continue funding current programs, including EDA and CDBG, at or above current levels.
- With the exception of funding for specific activities (e.g. EDA CARES; RMM CARES Act Funds) and/or administration activities (AAA CARES; SEAGO CARES), pass-through funding associated with COVID-19 is not included in the program budgets.
- A \$150,000 contingency line item from the fund balance has been included in this year's budget for unanticipated expenses or events that may come up in FY 2022. The Administrative and Executive Committees will be informed of the need to use contingency funds as far in advance as possible.

The proposed FY 2022 budget worksheet included in your packet provides a detailed overview of each program's budget. Program Managers participated in the development of their program budget(s), and successful budget implementation will depend on diligent monitoring of revenue and expenditures by each Program Manager.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Proposed FY 2022 Budget to the Executive Board.

Attachments: Proposed FY 2022 Budget

Action Requested:

Information Only

 \boxtimes Action Requested Below:

A motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget.

Balance	Total Other Total Expenses	Indirect Costs Control In Kind Expenses	other	Conferences/Workshops	Insurance	Dues/Subscriptions	Contingency	Advertising	Equipment Durchase	Equipment Lesse	Utilities	Internet Charges	Phone	Travel	Сору	Postage	Supplies	Depreciation	Outside Services	Audit Contract Services	Operating Expenditures	Total Labor Expenses	ERE	Salary/W ages	Expenses	Total Revenue	Transfer to/from fund balance	Assessment Transfer	Unrealized Gain/Loss on Inv	CARES Act III-E	CARES Act III VII Fed OMB	CARES ACTILLE Admin	CARES Act III B	Spp	Lottery Funds	NSIP/CILC	Title VII/OMB/ELDER AB	State Health Insurance	ITTE III E AUM/FAMUR		Title III C-2	Title III C-1/C-1 ADM	Title III B	In Kind Bevenue	Interest	State Independent Living	MIPPA	State OMB	State Funds	Senior Medicare Patrol	Assessment Funds State Respite	Associate Funds	Federal Grant	Federal Funds	AAA Revenue		SEAGO FY22 Budget Worksheet
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TO: EXECUTIVE BOARD

FROM: RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: MAY 13, 2021

RE: REQUEST TO AWARD AUDIT SERVICES CONTRACT

On March 17th the Request for Proposals for auditing services was published and distributed per SEAGO's procurement policy. We received three proposals by the April 13th deadline and all were deemed eligible for evaluation. An evaluation team consisting of Cochise County Supervisor Ann English, Accounts Manager Dina Curtiss, and I reviewed and ranked the proposals. While the recommended firm, Colby & Powell PLC, was not the highest ranked firm, after careful consideration, SEAGO determined that the firm appears equally qualified, is intimately familiar with the capacity limitations of small government organizations and non-profits such as SEAGO, and hence, retaining them as our auditors would be most advantageous to the organization overall.

The Executive Board has the responsibility to appoint the independent auditing firm, and staff is recommending that the audit services contract be awarded to the aforementioned firm at this time. It was stipulated in the Request for Proposals that the contract would be awarded before the end of June 2021. In addition, having the auditing firm under contract as soon as possible will improve our chances of being placed in their schedule to complete the field work in October. I've attached a copy of the contract for audit services for your consideration.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend approval the contract for Audit Services to Colby and Powell with the stipulation that staff ask the firm if they would be willing to match the low bidder's price.

Pursuant to the Administrative Council's request, staff contacted Colby and Powell who did agree to match the low bidder's price. I will attempt to answer any questions you may have at the meeting.

Attachments: Contract for Audit Services

Action Requested:

Information Only

 \boxtimes Action Requested Below:

A motion to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Colby & Powell PLC for Fiscal Year 2021 Audit Services.



AGREEMENT FOR AUDIT SERVICES

This Agreement made and entered into on June 10, 2021, by and between Colby & Powell PLC hereinafter referred to as the AUDIT FIRM, and SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization, Inc., hereinafter referred to as SEAGO.

WHEREAS, pursuant to 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F., SEAGO is required to procure the services of an independent auditing firm to perform an annual single audit of its Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements for each fiscal year ending June 30th; and,

WHEREAS, the auditing firm selected must perform the audit in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS); Government Auditing Standards (GAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; and,

WHEREAS, the selected auditing firm will issue appropriate audit reports in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200 §200.512; and,

WHEREAS, SEAGO and the AUDIT FIRM hereby affirm that the AUDIT FIRM has been selected in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F.; and,

WHEREAS, SEAGO and the AUDIT FIRM desire to enter into and execute a written agreement involving these services and to agree upon the terms thereof.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

The AUDIT FIRM, as an independent auditor, and not as an agent of SEAGO, shall provide the audit services.

1. Term of Agreement

The initial term of this Agreement shall be for the period beginning June 10, 2021, and ending June 9, 2022. This Agreement may be renewed pursuant to Section 3 below. SEAGO assumes no liability for work performed or costs incurred prior to the Agreement beginning dates or subsequent to the completion dates.

2. General

The AUDIT FIRM shall complete the audit in accordance with the audit standards cited below and provide the final audit reporting package no later than February 15, 2022, and by February 15th of each subsequent year if this Agreement is renewed pursuant to Section 3 below.

The AUDIT FIRM shall provide up to ten bound paper copies and one electronic copy of the audit reporting package to SEAGO. The electronic copy shall be in PDF format.

The AUDIT FIRM shall submit one copy of the audit reporting package and data collection form to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse and provide one copy of the audit reporting package to other passthrough entities upon request when the schedule of findings and questioned costs discloses audit findings related to federal awards the pass-through entities provided, or the summary schedule of prior audit findings reports on the status of prior findings related to federal awards the pass-through entities provided.

The AUDIT FIRM shall make no other distribution unless approved by SEAGO. The AUDIT FIRM understands all of the reports, information, data, etc. viewed, prepared or assembled under this agreement are confidential and the AUDIT FIRM agrees not to make available the aforementioned to any individual or organization without prior written approval of SEAGO.

The AUDIT FIRM shall provide ongoing consultation during the term of this Agreement, and during subsequent years if this Agreement is renewed pursuant to Section 3 below, at no additional cost to SEAGO.

3. Renewal of Agreement

This Agreement may be renewed on a year-by-year basis for one additional year. The decision to renew this Agreement will be made by the SEAGO Executive Director based on the best interest of SEAGO.

4. Audit Standards

The AUDIT FIRM shall conduct the audit in accordance with GAAS, GAS, and OMB 2 CFR 200 Subpart F. Standards adopted by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants have been incorporated into GAS unless the United States Government Accountability Office has excluded them by formal announcement.

5. Audit Reporting Package

The AUDIT FIRM shall include in the audit reporting package all reports required by GAAS, GAS, and OMB 2 CFR 200.

6. Data Collection Form

The AUDIT FIRM and SEAGO shall complete the data collection form approved by the OMB as instructed to comply with OMB 2 CFR Part 200.

7. Exit Conference

The AUDIT FIRM shall hold an exit conference with responsible SEAGO officials following completion of the draft reports. The purpose of the exit conference is to discuss the draft reports with SEAGO, identify any errors, and obtain comments on the reports' findings and recommendations.

8. Retention of Records and Access to Documents

The AUDIT FIRM shall retain the audit documentation in its entirety for a period of 5 years after the date of the audit report(s), unless the AUDIT FIRM is notified in writing by the cognizant agency for audit, oversight agency for audit, cognizant agency for indirect costs, or pass-through entity to extend the retention period. When the AUDIT FIRM is aware the Federal agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, the auditor shall contact the parties contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destruction of the audit documentation and reports. Audit documentation shall be made available upon written request to SEAGO, the cognizant or oversight agency for audit or its designee, cognizant agency for indirect cost, a Federal agency, or GAO at the completion of the audit, as part of a quality review, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities consistent with the purposes of OMB 2 CFR Part 200. Access to audit documentation includes the right of Federal agencies to obtain copies of audit documentation, as is reasonable and necessary.

9. Payments and Compensation

Compensation shall not exceed the Fee Proposal in the AUDIT FIRM's proposal, nor the Fee Proposal for subsequent years should this Agreement be renewed pursuant to Section 3 above.

SEAGO may pay the AUDIT FIRM in installments based on periodic written progress reports and invoices for the work accomplished to date.

SEAGO will withhold the final fifty percent of the annual Agreement amount or \$5,000.00, (Five thousand dollars) whichever is greater, until all written reports are accepted in final form by SEAGO.

All audit work, drafts, and final reports shall be completed in a timely manner. For each day after February 15th that all reports are not received by SEAGO, the AUDIT FIRM may be penalized with a one percent reduction in the audit fee.

10. Changes in Work

Changes in the scope, character, or complexity of the work may be negotiated if it is mutually agreed such changes are desirable and necessary. Such changes must be authorized in writing by SEAGO prior to the performance of the work.

11. Assignments

The Agreement may not be assigned by the AUDIT FIRM without prior written consent of SEAGO.

12. Inability to Complete Audit

If the AUDIT FIRM is unable to complete the audit on account of circumstances beyond its control and through no fault of the AUDIT FIRM, the AUDIT FIRM may cancel this agreement by giving SEAGO thirty (30) days written notice. In the event of such cancellation, SEAGO shall be liable to the AUDIT FIRM only for the work performed up to and including the date of the notice and shall pay for hours completed on the audit based on the Fee Proposal submitted by the AUDIT FIRM in its proposal.

13. Compliance with Laws

The AUDIT FIRM shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations applicable to the performance of this Agreement and the work hereunder, and shall comply with applicable laws and regulations governing safety and health.

The AUDIT FIRM shall procure all permits and licenses; pay all charges, fees, and taxes; and give all notices necessary and incidental to the due and lawful execution of the work.

14. Jurisdiction

This Agreement and all work hereunder shall be subject to the laws, rules, regulations, and decrees of the State of Arizona. In the event of a dispute, the parties agree to use arbitration insofar as

required by A.R.S. §12-1518. Any litigation shall be commenced and prosecuted in an appropriate court of competent jurisdiction within Cochise County, Arizona.

15. Responsibility, Claims, and Liabilities

The AUDIT FIRM hereby agrees to hold SEAGO or any of its officers or employees harmless from all sums SEAGO or any of its officers or employees may be obligated to pay by reason of any liability imposed upon any of them for damages arising out of the AUDIT FIRM's performance of professional services for SEAGO in the AUDIT FIRM's capacity as a Agreement auditor; or caused by any error, negligence, omission, or act of the AUDIT FIRM or any person employed by it or others for whose acts the AUDIT FIRM is legally liable. The above sums shall include, in the event of any legal action, court costs, litigation expenses, and reasonable attorney fees.

16. Failure to Perform

Failure to perform any and all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be deemed a substantial breach thereof and give SEAGO cause to cancel this Agreement on fifteen (15) days written notice to the AUDIT FIRM. In the event of cancellation for breach of this Agreement, the AUDIT FIRM shall not be entitled to damages, and agrees not to sue SEAGO for damages therefor. Notwithstanding other legal remedies that may be available to SEAGO because of the cancellation for breach of this Agreement, the AUDIT FIRM agrees to indemnify SEAGO for its costs in procuring the services of a new audit firm.

17. Cancellation of Agreement

SEAGO or the AUDIT FIRM shall, by thirty (30) days written notice, have the right to terminate this agreement. For changes in the type or frequency of the audit required, see the Changes in Work section above.

18. Agreements and Amendments

The Request for Proposals and the actual proposal from the AUDIT FIRM with appropriate addenda and terms, are by reference incorporated herein as if fully set forth in this Agreement.

This Agreement, its exhibits, appendices, attachments, and Request for Proposals and actual proposal, including any amendment to the Agreement, shall constitute the entire Agreement between the parties. In the event a conflict exists between this Agreement and the AUDIT FIRM's proposal, the conflict will be resolved consistent with this Agreement and the Request for Proposals.

19. Certifications

The individual signing this Agreement certifies he/she is authorized to Agreement on behalf of the AUDIT FIRM and to make these certifications.

The individual signing this Agreement certifies the AUDIT FIRM's principal officer(s) or member(s) is a Certified Public Accountant in good standing, licensed to perform accounting and auditing services in the State of Arizona. A statement identifying such certification and/or license shall be provided to SEAGO upon request.

The individual signing this Agreement certifies the AUDIT FIRM meets the independence standards of the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

The individual signing this Agreement certifies the AUDIT FIRM, and any individuals to be assigned to the audit, do not have a record of substandard audit work and have not been debarred or

suspended from doing work with any Federal, state of local government. (If the AUDIT FIRM or any individual assigned to the audit has been found in violation of any state or AICPA professional standards, this information must be disclosed.)

The individual signing this Agreement certifies the AUDIT FIRM does carry professional malpractice insurance or is otherwise adequately self-insured.

The individual signing this Agreement certifies the AUDIT FIRM complies with all applicable federal and state statutes, executive orders, regulations, and other requirements relating to civil rights and nondiscrimination in employment.

The individual signing this Agreement certifies the AUDIT FIRM has not employed any person, other than to an employee of the AUDIT FIRM, to solicit or secure this agreement upon any Agreement for a commission percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee. Breach of this warranty shall give SEAGO the right to terminate this Agreement, or at its discretion, to deduct from the AUDIT FIRM fee the amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, SEAGO and the AUDIT FIRM do hereby execute this Agreement as of the date of execution written above.

	(for SEAGO)		(for Colby & Powell, PLC)
BY:	Randy Heiss	BY:	Jim Usevitch, CPA
TITLE:	Executive Director	TITLE:	Engagement Partner
DATE:		DATE:	
		TIN:	



MEMO TO: EXECUTIVE BOARD

FROM: RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: MAY 13, 2021

SUBJECT: GRAHAM, GREENLEE, AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

As you are aware, our Executive Board must include private sector representation as a requirement of the Economic Development Administration. Per SEAGO's Bylaws, Private Sector Representatives (PSRs) are appointed from the nominations submitted by the Member Entity Representatives from each county area, and must represent a low income or minority group, or representative organization, or represent the principal economic interests in the region, such as, but not limited to business, industry, finance, utilities, education, the professions, agriculture, or labor.

The Graham County PSR position has been vacant since the expiration of Patrick O'Donnell's final term of office in August 2020. At long last, Supervisor Paul David has identified Ed Lopez of Safford, who is willing to serve in this capacity on the SEAGO Executive Board. Supervisor David has known him for the past five years, and during that time has grown to appreciate his business and common sense, generosity and devotion to serving the community.

Mr. Lopez is bi-lingual and currently serves as the Gila Valley representative for the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is also a Board member of the Mt. Graham Safe House, a past President of the Safford Lions Club, and he remains an active member of the club. Ed has served on the Board of the Graham County Chamber of Commerce, is a retired manager of the Bashas store in Thatcher, and is currently a supervisor of the Harbor Freight Tools store in Safford.

The Santa Cruz County PSR position was vacated with the expiration of Antony Sedgewick's final term of office in February 2021. Although I have not received any suggestions from Santa Cruz County or the City of Nogales, the Town of Patagonia has nominated Mr. David Budd, a local businessman and volunteer from their community, to serve in this position.

While he considers himself "semi-retired," Mr. Budd has remained active in two dimensions of business enterprise relevant to the economic development of Santa Cruz County. One is in the Real Estate industry, as his company, Village Properties, continues to renovate and lease older properties, thus improving the housing stock of the area. The other is the growth of his LLC that develops educational material in the fields of history and science, targeted at the high school level, by tapping the experience and resources of those with significant skills who've relocated to the Patagonia area.

The Greenlee County PSR position became vacant when Shaylee Richards unexpectedly resigned on March 4th. Supervisor David Gomez has since nominated Mr. Stephen Ahmann to serve on the Executive Board as Greenlee County's PSR.

Mr. Ahmann has a long and impressive work and public service history that includes service in the U.S. Army as combat engineer (1966-1969), and later, as an Ecologist-Natural and Cultural Resources Manager (1992-1997); Owner-operator of a Horticulture/Floriculture retail business (1969-1973), Landscaping, Irrigation, Pest Control Contractor (1978-1987); and Secondary and University Educator, biology, physics, chemistry, mathematics, department chairperson (1987-2014). Mr. Ahmann has earned degrees in Business Administration (AA), Biology (BA), Environmental Planning (BA), and a Master's Degree in Physical Science. Steve has served and continues to serve on numerous Greenlee County councils, boards and commissions such as the local Chamber of Commerce (past), Tourism Council (present), Board Member for Shepherd of the Hills Community Church (present) SECAB Board Member (past), Arizona Community Foundation Board Member (present), Cooperative Extension Advisory Board (present), and Gila Watershed Partnership, Greenlee Co. Birding Tourism coordinator (present).

All of the above nominees appear willing, exceptionally qualified and capable of filling the vacancies for private sector representatives in their respective counties, and I would respectfully suggest you recommend them to the Executive Board for approval.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend appointment of the Private Sector Representatives to the Executive Board pursuant to the nominations submitted by SEAGO member entities in their respective counties.

I will look forward to answering any questions at the meeting.

Attachments: None.

Action Requested:

Information Only

 \boxtimes Action Requested Below:

A motion to appoint the following individuals to serve two-year terms as Private Sector Representatives on the Executive Board:

- Mr. Ed Lopez to represent Graham County
- Mr. David Budd to represent Santa Cruz County
- Mr. Stephen Ahmann to represent Greenlee County



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	LAURA VILLA, AAA PROGRAM DIRECTOR
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	AREA PLAN ON AGING SFY 2022 THROUGH SFY 2025

Background: An Area Plan is the document submitted by an Area Agency on Aging to the State Agency on Aging to receive awards or contracts from the State Agency's (Arizona Department of Economic Security) grant provided under the Older Americans Act. The plan is the blueprint by which the Area Agency develops and administers a comprehensive and coordinated system of services and serves as the advocate and focal point for older people in the Planning and Service Area.

Process: The process to update the SEAGO Area Plan On Aging (APOA) initially began in February 2020. The planning process would have normally consisted of robust Public Outreach, Data Collection and Analysis, Proposed Actions, Advisory Council on Aging review, and finally, review and approval by the Administrative Council and Executive Board. After completing several of these elements, in February 2021, DES-DAAS announced that the full Area Plan on Aging process was not to be done because of the circumstance we were in with COVID-19. Instead, we received instructions to update the goals and objectives and to submit the Area Plan on Aging by May 1, 2021. As a result of the abbreviated process, few significant changes were made, but a brief overview of the process elements used are provided below.

Public Outreach: Starting in June 2020, the SEAGO Area Agency on Aging began announcing the Area Plan process on our website, as well as social media platforms. Because the Eastern Arizona Courier publishes information from the AAA as a public service (free of charge), the public in Graham and Greenlee Counties had additional opportunities to comment on the updated Plan. Announcements about the APOA were published June 12th, 13th, and 18th. Public Hearings on the updated Plan were scheduled for the first and second week of March 2020, but unfortunately, COVID-19 prevented us from gathering input in-person from our communities and the public was not yet accustomed to the electronic formats commonly used today.

Data Collection/Analysis: In order to determine the most urgent needs of the elderly and disabled across the region, the AAA performed a needs assessment that included data collection and analysis of needs identified through public surveys, 2010 census and demographic data for the area (*2020 census data was not yet available*), key informant questionnaires, and historic utilization of AAA services. SEAGO contracted with U.S Economic Research (USER) to assist with the region-wide needs assessment distribution and data analysis.

<u>Needs Assessment Surveys:</u> When ADES initially released the Area Plan Alert to the Area Agencies on Aging, SEAGO-AAA immediately began distributing needs assessments surveys to the communities. Normally these are placed at strategic public locations throughout the region with drop boxes to collect the completed forms, but with the pandemic in full swing, most public locations were unaccessible. Instead, SEAGO staff, case managers, home-delivered meal providers, and ACOA members helped provide questionnaires to those who were homebound and helped individuals fill them out. Surveys were also posted on our social media platforms and our website for individuals to complete electronically. In addition, the AAA mailed out surveys to clients in the region who receive

services through our agency. By targeting individuals who are case managed, the views of individuals 60 years of age or older with the greatest social and economic need, with particular attention to older individuals who are low-income minority, older individuals residing in rural areas, older individuals with severe disabilities, older individuals with limited English speaking abilities and any individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias were considered. By June 30, 2020, we were able to collect **371** needs assessments. Our timeline was to start conducting the needs assessments in August 2020, so we were ahead of ourselves.

<u>Key Informant Questionnaires:</u> Due to Covid-19 and DES-DAAS instructions, AAAs throughout the state were granted an exception to perform the Key Informant Questionnaires.

<u>Service Utilization:</u> Service utilization for case-managed services is reviewed monthly to ensure that services are used and that case managers are authorizing service levels as budgeted. Where productivity and utilization have declined, a more in-depth review is made to determine whether the service in question is still relevant or whether a change in the service delivery process is needed. In recent years the utilization data has helped determine areas in which funding allocations for services should be reduced and areas in which allocations should be increased in response to demand for services.

<u>Analysis:</u> The survey results indicated the most important need of seniors in southeast Arizona is affordable dental care. This was rated a severe problem by 41.1% of survey respondents across the region and was the number one serious problem in three counties. The second most crucial need of seniors in southeast Arizona is the maintenance and repair of the home. This was rated a severe problem by 24.9% of survey respondents across southeast Arizona.

Other significant concerns at the regional level include affordable assistive devices 24.8%, maintenance of the yard was rated at 24.3%, telemarketing or in-home sales 24.3%, and transportation 20.6% based on survey respondents across the region.

As done in the past, we asked specifically on the needs assessment survey for respondents to identify their sources of advice regarding health insurance or Medicare. SEAGO AAA and insurance agents were the most popular sources in southeast Arizona at 21% and 20.5% of respondents. This represents an increase of 6.3% from the last Area Plan survey results.

ACOA Review: The SEAGO Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) reviewed the minimum goals and objectives that the state unit on aging and the Area Agencies on Aging had agreed to include in their plans. The ACOA reviewed a first and only draft of the updated Area Plan during their April 15, 2021 meeting. One version was presented because the state asked for only an updated two-year plan update and not the Area Plan when Covid-19 hit. During this meeting, the ACOA commented on the proposed outcomes, objectives, and plan as a whole. Information was also presented on the Needs Assessment report during this meeting. Comments from the ACOA have been addressed in the plan.

Action to be Taken to Address Identified Needs: The table below summarizes the steps to be taken to address the needs identified in the needs assessment process:

Comment or Issue	Source	Action to be taken
Affordable Dental Care	Needs Assessment Surveys	Ship counselors will have information about Medicare plans and clinics or service clubs that provide dental or vision services. Enrollment of dual-eligible clients into Special Needs Plans by getting QMB coverage for both Parts A & B of Medicare will be reviewed carefully. Increases of SHIP volunteers trained, and these numbers will decrease significantly.
Maintenance and Repair of the home	Needs Assessment	Potential sources of assistance will be cataloged, and the feasibility of consolidating regional human services will be explored. Will reach out to existing organizations that already provide similar resources.
Affordable assistive devices	Needs Assessment Surveys	Ship counselors and case managers will have information about insurance coverage for assistive devices and a list of loan closets. Case Managers will be providing more advocacy in their areas and inform clients of available options.
Maintenance of the Yard	Needs Assessment Surveys	Potential sources of assistance will be cataloged; the feasibility of consolidating regional human services will be explored.
Telemarketing or In-Home Sales	Needs Assessment Surveys	Increase public information forums on fraud prevention. Since the height of the pandemic, more seniors are utilizing Facebook and other social media postings containing valuable fraud-prevention information.
Finding Legal Assistance	Needs Assessment Surveys	AAA legal services are now available in partnership with Soto-Law, PLLC in Cochise County, and potentially expand to the rest of the region.

If you would like to review the SEAGO APOA in its entirety, please click the following link: http://www.keepandshare.com/doc12/view.php?id=252573&da=y

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have at our meeting.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of SFY 2022 - SFY 2025 Area Plan on Aging to the Executive Board.

Attachments: SFY 2022–2025 Area Plan on Aging Goals and Strategic and Operational Objectives.

Action Requested:

Information Only

 \boxtimes Action Requested Below:

A motion to approve the SFY 2022 – SFY 2025 Area Plan on Aging.

PART IV – GOALS, OBJECTIVES

GOAL I To increase awareness and understanding of aging issues and help prepare Arizona for an aging population

Operational Objectives:

- O-1-1 To recruit and train volunteers in every vital community in the region to help the inhouse programs at the Area Agency on Aging
- O-1-2 To increase and expand the visibility of all in-house programs by performing monthly multi-modal presentations.
- Output: Increase the number of our volunteer base and the number of hours that they dedicate to the programs.
- Outcome: Our in-house programs will grow, and our communities will be well aware of the services and resources. AAA will be better prepared to meet the needs of those turning 65 and their family caregivers.

Strategic Objectives:

- S-1-1 To identify new opportunities for partnerships and collaboration.
- S-1-2 To increase visibility of SEAGO AAA by increased use of electronic communications, including social media platforms such as the website, Facebook page, and partnerships with Chambers of Commerce and local newspapers.

GOAL II To increase the ability of older adults to remain active, healthy, and living independently in their communities.

Operational Objectives:

- O-2-1 To expand the multi-modal A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi for Arthritis/Fall Prevention and Trualta interactive learning portal for caregivers throughout the region.
- Output: Increase the number of Tai Chi for Arthritis and A Matter of Balance classes and increase registered family caregivers.
- Outcome: Change in societal expectations about aging, higher levels of physical and emotional well-being, decrease falls, civic engagement, and more vital social connectedness among aging adults throughout the region.
 - O-2-2 To enhance and maintain home and community-based programs that enable elders to remain at home, decreasing long-term care institutionalization costs.
 - Output: Increase home-delivered meals and hours of Home Care and In-Home Respite provided to eligible individuals.
- Outcome: Elders and their families will receive services that enable them to remain active in their homes and communities.
 - O-2-3 Increase participation in coordination meetings and planning efforts.
 - Output: Increase transportation services will continue to meet the needs of elders who would otherwise be isolated.
- Outcome: The most vulnerable and family caregivers will have available resources at their reach.

Strategic Objectives:

- S-2-1 To develop partnerships throughout the region to implement evidence-based prevention programs, precisely A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi for Arthritis fall prevention and Trualta.
- S-2-2 To establish relationships with hospital discharge planners and Long Term Care rehabilitation centers that will focus on care transitions for elderly patients back to home settings.
- S-2-3 To expand relationships with Faith-Based Organizations and Fire Districts to reach a broader sector of the senior population and our caregivers.

S-2-4 To explore opportunities for increased efficiencies in program administration.

GOAL III To increase the safety and well-being of older Arizonans.

Operational Objectives:

- O-3-1 To identify existing safety programs that law enforcement, fire departments, Red Cross, Health Departments, and AARP have in operation, and encourage seniors to enroll in these programs.
- Output: Enrollment and participation in existing safety programs will increase.
- Outcome: Elders will benefit from safety training and wellness check programs that already exist, and caregivers will have the tools needed to provide quality care.
 - O-3-2 To promote fall prevention, including A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi for Arthritis fall Prevention.
 - Output: To complete fact sheets on fall prevention and number of individuals who complete A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi classes.
- Outcome: The number of falls reported in elders will decline.
 - O-3-3 To improve care for residents in long-term care facilities and increase awareness of abuse, neglect, and crimes against seniors.
 - Output: Increase the number of Ombudsman volunteers.
- Outcome: Decrease in victims of elder abuse, neglect, and crimes against seniors.

Strategic Objectives

- S-3-1 To establish and expand relationships and collaborative efforts with public safety personnel throughout the region.
- S-3-2 To reduce the costs associated with public safety responses to senior-related crimes or injuries.



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	LAURA VILLA, AAA PROGRAM DIRECTOR
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	FY 2022 AAA SUBAWARD RECOMMENDATIONS

On March 27, 2019, the SEAGO AAA solicited applications from service providers for Congregate Meals, Home Delivered Meals, Housekeeping, Attendant Care, Home Nursing, In-Home Respite, Legal Assistance, Transportation, and Case Management. Subaward agreements were issued to providers in Fiscal Year 2020, with options to renew subawards for up to an additional 4 years, as expressed in the RFA. Subaward renewals will be issued in Fiscal Year 2022 and the subsequent two fiscal years based on the recommendations developed by staff and approved by the Administrative Council and Executive Board.

The Executive Board must consider our tentative subaward recommendations at their meeting on May 21st so that subaward agreements can be in place and services begun by July 1st. Based on the anticipated funding levels available from the Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES) for the AAA services listed above, we have developed the attached AAA funding levels by county area and potential subaward recommendations for Fiscal Year 2022.

These recommendations do not include additional funding that will soon become available for response to the COVID-19 outbreak. It's also important to remember that these are only the initial funding levels and they may be increased (or decreased) based on subaward negotiations, utilization levels, and future alerts from ADES.

I will attempt to answer any questions you may have at the meeting.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of Fiscal Year 2022 AAA Subaward Recommendations to the Executive Board.

Attachment: Fiscal Year 2022 Subaward Recommendations

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below

A motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 AAA subaward recommendations.

SEAGO AAA	Fiscal Year 2022 Subawa	ard Recommendations		
	Case Manageme	nt		
		ailable Funding All Counties:	\$	251,820
Provider	Service	Service Area		Amount
		Cochise County		
Cochise Health and Social Services	Case Management	Cochise County - All	\$	170,000
		Graham County		
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique				
Services	Case Management	Graham County - All	\$	30,000
		Greenlee County		
Greenlee County Health Department	Case Management	Greenlee County - All	\$	20,000
	1	Santa Cruz County		
Santa Cruz County Public Fiduciary	Case Management	Santa Cruz County - All	\$	31,820
	Legal Service			
Soto-Law	Legal Services	Cochise County-All	\$	17,432
	Legal Services C20	Cochise County-All		TBD
	Home Care Clust			
	ŀ	Available Funding By County:		
		Cochise:	•	446,813
		Graham:	•	131,852
		Greenlee:	•	73,000
		Santa Cruz:	\$	185,257
Provider	Service	Service Area		Amount
	I .	Cochise County		
Accent Care	Housekeeping	Cochise County - All	\$	1,400
	Attendant Care		\$	270,000
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$	-
	In-home Respite		\$	42,913
Lutheran Social Services	Housekeeping	Cochise County - All	\$	500
	Attendant Care		\$	112,000
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$	-
	In-home Respite		\$	20,000
	Т., , ,	Graham County		
Accent Care	Housekeeping	Graham County - All	\$	500
	Attendant Care		\$	23,000
	In-home Respite		\$	500
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique		Cusham Caust All	~	
NEIVICES	Housekeeping	Graham County - All	\$	4,500
Services			÷	00 151
	Attendant Care		\$	90,352
	Attendant Care Attendant Care-SSBG		\$	-
	Attendant Care		\$ \$ \$	90,352 - 13,000
	Attendant Care Attendant Care-SSBG In-home Respite	Greenlee County	\$ \$	-
Greenlee County Health Department	Attendant Care Attendant Care-SSBG In-home Respite Housekeeping	Greenlee County Greenlee County - All	\$ \$ \$	- 13,000
	Attendant Care Attendant Care-SSBG In-home Respite Housekeeping Attendant Care	-	\$ \$ \$ \$	-
	Attendant Care Attendant Care-SSBG In-home Respite Housekeeping Attendant Care Attendant Care-SSBG	-	\$ \$ \$ \$	- 13,000 - 60,000 -
	Attendant Care Attendant Care-SSBG In-home Respite Housekeeping Attendant Care	-	\$ \$ \$ \$	- 13,000

	Home Care Cluster (con	itinued)		
Provider	Service	Service Area		Amount
		Santa Cruz County		
Accent Care	Housekeeping	Santa Cruz County - All	\$	500
	Attendant Care		\$	33,500
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$	-
	In-home Respite		\$	1,000
Consumer Direct	Housekeeping	Santa Cruz County - All	\$	500
	Attendant Care		\$	80,000
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$	-
	In-home Respite		\$	4,000
Lutheran Social Services	Housekeeping	Santa Cruz County - All	\$	500
	Attendant Care		\$	41,757
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$ \$	-
	In-home Respite		\$	500
Patagonia Assisted Care Agency	Housekeeping	Santa Cruz County - All	\$	500
	Attendant Care		\$	22,000
	In-home Respite		\$	500
	-		-	
	Meals Programs	;		
Αν	vailable Funding By County	:		
		Cochise	·ς	213,250
		Coombe	ΥΥ	
		Graham	•	145,106
			\$	
		Graham	\$ \$	145,106
Provider	Service	Graham Greenlee	: \$: \$: \$	145,106 68,500
Provider	Service	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz	: \$: \$: \$	145,106 68,500 125,250
Provider City of Tombstone	Service Congregate Meals	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area	: \$: \$: \$	145,106 68,500 125,250
		Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County	: \$: \$: \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount
City of Tombstone	Congregate Meals	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County	: \$: \$: \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000
City of Tombstone	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone	\$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD
City of Tombstone	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone	\$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500
City of Tombstone	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas	\$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas	\$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000
	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas SE Cochise County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas SE Cochise County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas SE Cochise County SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD - TBD
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Cochise County Tombstone Douglas SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista Rural Cochise County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD - TBD
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC Mom's Meals	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20 Home Delivered Meals	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas Douglas SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista Rural Cochise County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD - TBD 152,750
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC Mom's Meals Mom's Meals	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20 Home Delivered Meals	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas Douglas SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista Rural Cochise County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD 21,000 TBD 152,750
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC Mom's Meals Mom's Meals Southeastern Arizona Community Unique	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20 Home Delivered Meals	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas Douglas SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista Rural Cochise County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD 21,000 TBD 152,750
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC Mom's Meals Mom's Meals Southeastern Arizona Community Unique	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-SSBG Funds HDM-SSBG Funds	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas Douglas SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista Rural Cochise County Rural Graham County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD - TBD 152,750 23,500 1,606
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC Mom's Meals	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-SSBG Funds HDM-SSBG Funds Congregate Meals-C20	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas Douglas SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista Rural Cochise County Rural Graham County Safford	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD - TBD 152,750 23,500 1,606
City of Tombstone Douglas ARC Mom's Meals Mom's Meals Southeastern Arizona Community Unique	Congregate Meals Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Congregate Meals-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-C20 HDM SSBG Funds HDM-C20 Home Delivered Meals HDM-SSBG Funds HDM-SSBG Funds	Graham Greenlee Santa Cruz Service Area Cochise County Tombstone Douglas Douglas SE Cochise County Benson, Sierra Vista Rural Cochise County Rural Graham County	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	145,106 68,500 125,250 Amount 30,000 TBD 9,500 TBD 21,000 TBD 21,000 TBD 21,000 TBD 21,000

	Meals Programs (cont	inued)		
Provider	Service	Service Area		Amount
		Greenlee County	-	
Mom's Meals	Home Delivered Meals	Rural Greenlee County	\$	23,500
	HDM-SSBG Funds		\$	-
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique				
Services	Congregate Meals	Clifton and Duncan	\$	20,000
	Congregate Meals-C20			TBD
	Home Delivered Meals	Greenlee	\$	25,000
	HDM-C20			TBC
		Santa Cruz County		
Mom's Meals	Home Delivered Meals			
		Rural Santa Cruz County	\$	35,250
	HDM-SSBG Funds		\$	-
Santa Cruz Council on Aging	Congregate Meals	Nogales	\$	90,000
	Congregate Meals-C20			TBD
Senior Citizens of Patagonia	Congregate Meals	Patagonia	\$	41,444
	Congregate Meals-C20			TBC
		- :	•	
	Home Repair and Adapt	tive Aids		
Provider	Service	Service Area		Amount
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique				
Services	Home Repair	Graham and Greenlee	\$	8,000
	Adaptive Aids	Graham and Greenlee	\$	8,589
	Transportation			
		Cochise:	\$	153,934
		Graham:	\$	40,000
		Greenlee:	\$	40,000
		Santa Cruz	÷	
		Santa Cruz:	Ş	-
Provider	Service	Santa Cruz. Service Area	\$	- Amount
Provider	Service		\$	Amount
	Service Transportation	Service Area	\$	
City of Benson	1	Service Area Cochise County		30,000
City of Benson City of Bisbee	Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area	\$	30,000
City of Benson City of Bisbee City of Douglas	Transportation Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area Bisbee Area	\$ \$	30,000 30,000 35,000
City of Benson City of Bisbee City of Douglas City of Willcox	Transportation Transportation Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area Bisbee Area Douglas - Cochise Cnty	\$ \$ \$	30,000 30,000 35,000
City of Benson City of Bisbee City of Douglas City of Willcox Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program	Transportation Transportation Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area Bisbee Area Douglas - Cochise Cnty	\$ \$ \$ \$	30,000 30,000 35,000 28,934
City of Benson City of Bisbee City of Douglas City of Willcox Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program	Transportation Transportation Transportation Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area Bisbee Area Douglas - Cochise Cnty Willcox-rural areas	\$ \$ \$	30,000 30,000 35,000 28,934
City of Benson City of Bisbee City of Douglas City of Willcox Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program (VICAP)	Transportation Transportation Transportation Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area Bisbee Area Douglas - Cochise Cnty Willcox-rural areas Cochise County -All	\$ \$ \$ \$	30,000 30,000 35,000 28,934 30,000
City of Benson City of Bisbee City of Douglas City of Willcox Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program (VICAP)	Transportation Transportation Transportation Transportation Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area Bisbee Area Douglas - Cochise Cnty Willcox-rural areas Cochise County -All Graham County	\$ \$ \$ \$	30,000 30,000 35,000 28,934 30,000
Provider City of Benson City of Bisbee City of Douglas City of Willcox Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program (VICAP) Easter Seals Blake Foundation Easter Seals Blake Foundation	Transportation Transportation Transportation Transportation Transportation	Service Area Cochise County Benson Area Bisbee Area Douglas - Cochise Cnty Willcox-rural areas Cochise County -All Graham County Graham County	\$ \$ \$ \$	Amount 30,000 30,000 35,000 28,934 30,000 40,000 20,000

	Unobligated Fun	ds		
	Available Funding All Counties: \$ 7,000			
Provider	Service	Service Area		Amount
TBD	Transportation	TBD	\$	3,000
		Cochise, Graham,		
		Greenlee and Santa Cruz		
	Caregiver Outreach	Counties	\$	3,000
		Cochise, Graham,		
		Greenlee and Santa Cruz		
SEAGO AAA	Caregiver Training	Counties	\$	1,000
	Home Safety Program	Cochise, Graham,		
		Greenlee and Santa Cruz		
		Counties	\$	-
	Case Management	Cochise		TBD
	Grand Total - A		\$	1,881,782

NOTES:

1. SSBG funds are not yet available from DES

2. C20 funds can be extended through Sept. 2021 based on projections

3. CARES Act funds are not yet available



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	CHRIS VERTREES, TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION PLAN

Beginning in 2007, in order to receive funding under the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 program, agencies applying for funding must be included in a *locally developed, Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan (i.e., coordination plan).* The FTA also requires Section 5311 and 5307 projects to be included in these *Plans*. The coordination plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, seniors, and people with low incomes; provides strategies for meeting those local needs; and prioritizes transportation services and projects for funding and implementation.

In response to the requirements of the FTA and ADOT, SEAGO develops **a** Regional **Transportation Coordination Plan.** Each January, SEAGO invites human, health, social, and transit service providers and members of the general public to come together to form our Regional Coordination Council. It is at these meetings that short-term planning strategies and priorities are developed to address the transit needs of the Region. This group reviews and provides updates to the Coordination Plan. New members are added to the Plan and organizations no longer active are removed from the Plan. Each organization is given an opportunity to update their own efforts and the combined efforts of the group are recorded in the Plan. The process includes an update of the regional needs assessment, a review of and update of regional transit goals, capacity building and gap filling strategies, and the establishment of Regional Funding Priorities for the 5310 grant cycle.

While Federal legislation requires the preparation of a *locally developed plan* it does not provide direction on Executive Board approval requirements. However, many transit grant applications now require projects to be identified in a *locally approved planning document*. Executive Board approval would allow SEAGO and our public transit providers to be more competitive in our efforts to pursue transit funding.

Due to the size of Coordination Plan it has not been included in your packet. The plan is available at: <u>https://www.keepandshare.com/doc12/252557/seago-fy21-coordination-plan-04-19-21-pdf-34-4-meg?da=y</u>.

At their meeting on May 6, 2021, the Administrative Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of SEAGO 2021-20211 Regional Transportation Coordination Plan to the Executive Board.

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below

A motion to approve the SEAGO 2021-2022 Regional Transportation Coordination Plan.



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
FROM:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	FUTURE MEETING DATES

The Administrative Council normally meets at 9:00 a.m. on the first Thursday of February, May, August and November at the Cochise College Benson Center, located at 1025 Highway 90 in Benson, Arizona. The Executive Board normally meets at 10:00 a.m. on the Fridays two weeks following the Administrative Council meetings unless there is a holiday, or unless the Board sets an alternative date. The location of each Executive Board meeting is determined by the jurisdiction hosting the meeting, and therefore varies.

Administrative Council	Executive Board
August 5, 2021	August 20, 2021 - Greenlee County
November 4, 2021	November 19, 2021 - Santa Cruz County
February 10, 2022*	February 25, 2022 - Cochise County*
May 5, 2022	May 20, 2022 - Graham County

*Moved to avoid conflict with ACMA Winter Conference.

Also, below please find the tentative schedule for our combined telephonic Administrative and Executive Committee meetings in the upcoming 12 months:

Combined Administrative and Executive Committee Meetings (telephonic)
June 3, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.
September 30, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.
December 2, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.
March 31, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Attachments: None.

Action Requested:

Information Only Action Requested Below:



MEMO TO:EXECUTIVE BOARDFROM:RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORDATE:MAY 13, 2021SUBJECT:IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

As most of you probably recall, the <u>FY 2021 - 2025 SEAGO Strategic Plan</u> was approved by the Administrative Council and Executive Board at our May 2020 meetings and became effective July 1, 2020. For your information, below is a brief program-by-program update on the progress staff has been able to make since our February 2021 meetings (see highlighted tactics – <u>yellow = progress</u>; green = complete):

TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND TACTICS:

- GOAL 1: IDENTIFY, PROVIDE, AND ENHANCE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND CONSTITUENTS
- **Objective A:** Revise the SEAGO STBG Programming Process (By 7/1/2021)

Tactic 1. Develop TAC-approved policies and procedures to limit project costs and provide equal opportunities to all SEAGO member entities (By 7/1/2021):

a. Cap project costs at two-years of Obligation Authority (By 7/1/2021)

At their meetings on February 11th and 28th (respectively) the Administrative Council and Executive Board reviewed and approved updated STBG Project Programming Procedures that included population-based programming caps, a cap on the maximum amount of STBG that can be programmed for Right-of-Way acquisition for a given project, and the maximum amount of STBG that could be programmed per county for active projects (regardless of sponsor) during the four-year TIP period. With these updated procedures now adopted by the Executive Board, this Tactic has been accomplished ahead of schedule.

b. Review/revise policy of paying for Right-of-Way acquisition with STBG funds (By 7/1/2021)

See Tactic 1.a. above.

c. Utilize the HURF Exchange Program whenever possible (By 7/1/2021)

Utilization of the HURF Exchange Program was designated as a primary programming strategy for use of SEAGO STBG Program funds and was part of the updated procedures approved as discussed above.

d. Explore new Project Programming Procedures including a possible STBG funding rotation (By 7/1/2021)

See Tactic 1.a. above. While a possible STBG funding rotation was considered by the TAC in their review, this was not included in the new Project Programming Procedures

approved as discussed above (the TAC was unable to reach agreement on this).

Objective B: Coordinate the Creation of a Sustainable, Dependable Public Transit System in Graham and Greenlee Counties (By 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1. Identify transportation partners (By 7/1/2021)

As you know, we have engaged in a partnership with NADO to provide support and technical assistance in the development and implementation of this project through a USDA grant. SEAGO, NADO and key partners met on February 4th to draft a preliminary Scope of Work for the project. A project Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been formed consisting of NADO, SEAGO Transportation, ADOT, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, National RTAP, the Western Transportation Institute, and Easter Seals Blake Foundation. Other key partners include the United Way of Graham and Greenlee Counties and the Arizona Taxi Cab Club. We will continue to identify and explore additional partnerships as the project moves forward.

Tactic 2. Determine service needs and area (By 7/1/2022)

Ridership data collection has been completed and data collection is in progress. Service areas, and schedules will be informed in part through a transit needs survey. A draft survey has been developed and will be reviewed by the TAC. The first project stakeholder meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 5th.

Tactic 3. Identify funding sources including non-ADOT sources (By 7/1/2022)

No progress since the February report. This will be part of an update to the existing Feasibility Plan.

Tactic 4. Provide technical service and oversight during project development (By 7/1/2022)

See Tactic 3 above.

Tactic 5. Garner agreements between local jurisdictions (By 7/1/2022)

See Tactic 3 above.

GOAL 2: BUILD AWARENESS OF SEAGO AND THE VALUE OF OUR SERVICES

Objective A: Improve the Visibility of SEAGO Through Partnerships (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1. Continue promoting news and announcements about program initiatives, accomplishments and upcoming events through partnerships with local news media (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

An article involving SEAGO's partnership with the City of Willcox to initiate a dial-a-ride public transportation service in the community appeared in the Willcox Range News and the Sierra Vista Herald/Review on March 9th: <u>https://www.myheraldreview.com/news/willcox/city-of-willcox-receives-support-it-needs-to-implement-dial-a-ride-shuttle-service/article_3f798678-8107-11eb-aaed-Ob2aa1ad6719.html</u>. In addition, the public involvement processes for the SEAGO TIP is currently underway and Public Participation Plans for the Cochise County Transit Consolidation Study and the Santa Cruz County RTA Study are in the process of being developed.

Tactic 2. Update partnership agreements to include signage and/or promotion requirements crediting SEAGO Transportation (By 7/1/2021)

No progress since the February report. See Central Administration Goal 2, Tactic 2 below.

Tactic 3. Provide links to Transportation programs and services to member entities for inclusion on their websites and social media pages (By 7/1/2021)

No progress since the February report. The process of redesigning of our azmobility.org site to make it more user-friendly and interactive has been pushed back due to conflicting priorities and is anticipated to begin in June 2021. Once complete, we will be sharing the updated site with our transit partners for inclusion on their websites' transit pages. See also Central Administration Goal 2, Objective A, Tactic 3 below.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND TACTICS:

GOAL 1: IDENTIFY, PROVIDE, AND ENHANCE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND CONSTITUENTS

Objective A: Enhance CDBG Technical Assistance (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Develop additional capacity within the CDBG Program to assist with project administration (By 7/1/2022)

In previous updates, you may recall that Ms. Melissa Hartman was recruited to assist our CDBG program with some targeted activities as a temporary, part-time employee. Since we were recently awarded CDBG CV 1 and 2 funds, Melissa's focus will now shift to administration of those activities. And with our acceptance of the Continuum of Care (COC) contract for the Cochise County area, Maria Porter, SEAGO's Economic Development Program Manager, will be lending her considerable experience managing similar contracts to Community Development as needed. And finally, we are pleased to announce that the CDBG program has recruited a full-time person to take over labor standards monitoring and eventually, other aspects of the CDBG program so that Keith can focus on expanding funding opportunities to benefit our member entities. Our new Senior Planning Specialist, Susan Bronson, was onboarded April 26th and is now beginning to come up to speed with her new responsibilities. If our new hire proves to be as capable as we perceive her to be, we will be able to consider this Tactic **completed well ahead of schedule**.

Tactic 2. Educate member entities on the potential for the region to capture a greater share of the CDBG Colonias and State Special Projects (SSP) set-aside accounts (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

The effort to educate member entities and advocate for their applications for Colonias and SSP funds is ongoing and has proven to have its own salutary effect – thus the need to expand capacity on the CDBG team as described above.

Tactic 3. Encourage community applications and provide technical assistance in developing Colonias and SSP applications (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

Work is in progress to implement and administer the Nogales (\$840,000) and Bisbee (\$376,474) Colonias projects awarded earlier this year. And a new application cycle will soon be upon us and the CDBG program will now be adequately staffed to enable Keith to assist interested communities and capture an even greater share of the CDBG funds coming into the SEAGO region.

Objective B: Explore Creating Housing Program Opportunities to Address Homelessness and Housing Affordability (By 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1. Identify potential funding sources including HOME, HUD, Regional Account, SSP, Colonias, and private foundations (By 7/1/2022)

As mentioned in the February report, SEAGO agreed to assume the responsibility for coordinating Cochise County COC and the contract that accompanies it. We envision this leading us to move toward expanding the COC role through the remainder of the region as we develop the partnerships, networking, knowledge, experience, and operational framework to do so.

Also, as mentioned above, SEAGO's application for CDBG CV 1 and 2 funding has been awarded. Our request was for \$750,000 to be used to assist COVID-19 impacted families and individuals with mortgage payments, rent, utilities, food and clothing. With individuals now able to apply directly to ADES for rent, utilities, food and clothing assistance, it's anticipated that the vast majority of the funds awarded to the SEAGO Cares program will be used to assist those in arrears on their mortgage payments. With the American Rescue Plan Act's appropriation of approximately \$787 million to ADES and ADOH for utility assistance, mortgage and rental assistance, homelessness, supportive services, and other programs, we anticipate there will soon be additional opportunities for SEAGO to assist with addressing affordable housing and homelessness within the region. And as stated above, the additional capacity within the CDBG program will enable Keith to pursue these new funding opportunities, with the goal of beginning to address some of the homelessness and affordable housing gaps in the SEAGO region.

Tactic 2. Identify potential partners and agencies to accomplish this objective (By 7/1/2022)

Our primary partners now include HUD, ADOH, and ADES as they offer a range of potential resources to address these needs. In addition, the Cochise Continuum of Care committee includes agencies such as the Good Neighbor Alliance, Arizona Complete Health and Community Partners. Some of these organizations not only work to meet homelessness and affordable housing needs in Cochise County, they do so throughout the SEAGO region. As we work with ADOH and the Cochise COC, we will continue building partnerships and opportunities to expand and support our efforts throughout the SEAGO region.

Tactic 3. Develop a coordinated Technical Assistance service delivery plan (By 7/1/2022)

No measurable progress to date, but it's expected that the housing rehabilitation program we've recently developed and the Continuum of Care model we are currently building will become integral to our TA service delivery plan.

Tactic 4. Deliver Technical Assistance to member entities to accomplish this objective (7/1/2022 – 7/1/2023)

At the behest of the City of Sierra Vista, and consistent with this Strategic Plan Objective, SEAGO assumed the contract to coordinate COC activities in Cochise County. See also Tactic 3 above.

Objective C: Absorb the Water Quality Management Program (By 7/1/2023)

No progress since the February report, but once CDBG's new full-time employee is on board, fully oriented, and proficient in her duties, we intend to begin transferring the WQMP duties to her.

GOAL 2: BUILD AWARENESS OF SEAGO AND THE VALUE OF OUR SERVICES

Objective A: Provide Outreach to Member Entities (By 7/1/2021)

Tactic 1. Create and deliver outreach materials to member entities regarding Community Development programming and technical assistance (By 7/1/2021)

This is an ongoing effort that will continue over the term of our Strategic Plan.

Tactic 2. Create and disseminate press releases regarding Community Development activities in each county or community in the SEAGO region (By 7/1/2021)

We are on schedule to publish a notice of funding availability through the SEAGO Cares program to assist individuals and families impacted by COVID-19. The notices will be widely disseminated on SEAGO's AAA, Economic Development, and Public Transit social media pages, as well as SEAGO's website. The notice will inform interested parties how to apply for SEAGO Cares funds and provide links to application forms, documentation requirements, and information on how to

obtain program information directly from SEAGO staff for those who are unable to download and or print program materials. We are also spreading the word about the SEAGO Cares program through our many public and private partnerships throughout the region and hope you will join us in that effort.

Tactic 3. Update TA agreements to include signage and other promotion requirements crediting SEAGO (By 7/1/2022)

No progress since the February report. See Central Administration Goal 2, Tactic 2 below.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND TACTICS

GOAL 1: IDENTIFY, PROVIDE, AND ENHANCE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND CONSTITUENTS

Objective A: Increase Agency Capacity (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Reallocate staff duties to expand advocacy efforts (By 7/1/2021)

The AAA's Facebook posts, views of our videos, and the readership of our quarterly newsletter have continued to increase. Internal discussions about how to better communicate AAA services, increase advocacy efforts for the needs of the elderly and disabled, and keep the public engaged have led to the creation of the SEAGO AAA Stay Connected mobile phone app. The app launched February 14, 2021 and now links the resources posted to AAA social media pages and the AAA website, and allows program coordinators to post events so that clients can register for and access a multitude of services and resources. In addition, the AAA has added the Trualta platform to its resources for caregivers. Trualta is another application that links users to its own unique caregiver resources as well as those available on the SEAGO website, the AAA mobile app, and to the AAA Facebook page.

Tactic 2. Cross-train agency staff among programs (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

The AAA team continues to conduct weekly zoom meetings to share updates and program information and offer staff the opportunity to share accomplishments and barriers. These sessions allow each staff member to learn from each other, brainstorm solutions to problems encountered by members of the AAA team, and understand the workings of the programs of their associates. In addition, Amalia Marin has completed her SHIP-SMP training and moved into the program coordinator role. And with Amalia moving to the SHIP-SMP program we have hired a new Office Specialist, Brenda Schumacher. Brenda came on board March 8th and is quickly learning her new responsibilities. And finally, the LTC Ombudsman and SHIP-SMP programs are collaborating on addressing elder abuse both in long-term care settings and our communities with scam jams through partnerships that include: Adult Protective Services, Long Term Care facilities, Public Fiduciaries, senior adult homes, financial institutions, and more to address regional challenges and potential future needs.

Objective B: Improve Emergency Nutrition Access (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Develop READI-Meals Program to provide shelf-stable meals suitable for long-term storage and emergency use for congregate and home delivered meals (By 7/1/2021)

Freeze dryers and water activity meters have been deployed to our nutrition sites. However, COVID-19 has delayed training nutrition site staff on the use of program equipment and the development of Food Safety Plans (FSPs) until the health departments are comfortable in doing so. The purchase of a vapor sorption analyzer was approved by the Executive Board in February and has been delivered to the AAA. Health and Nutrition Program staff are learning how to use the equipment, and the new technology will greatly facilitate the development of FSPs as soon as it is

safe to do so. We are in the process of recording video trainings that we will use to train our sites as soon as COVID allows us to, and the local health departments give us the okay. With the rollout of vaccines to our communities and the Governor's recent lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, we expect to be able to fully resume program development phase soon.

Objective C: Improve Operational Control and Service Delivery Efficiency (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Meet with case management agencies to explore opportunities to secure commitments for supplemental funding (By 7/1/2021)

No progress since the February report. With the roll-out of vaccines to our communities and the Governor's recent lifting of COVID restrictions we hope to begin meeting with case management agencies over the next month.

Tactic 2. Transition to in-house case management

Carrie Gibbons continues monthly trainings with all of our AAA Case Managers to improve utilization of Home and Community Based Services, updating Program Instructions for Case Management and the Case Management Handbook. Carrie has completed ADRC options counseling certification and is in a perfect position to transition into case management. She will now be shadowing one of the more experienced case managers and begin devoting half of her time to case management.

GOAL 2: BUILD AWARENESS OF SEAGO AND THE VALUE OF OUR SERVICES

Objective A: Improve the visibility of SEAGO through partnerships (7/1/2022 – 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1. Continue promoting news and announcements about program initiatives, accomplishments and upcoming events through AAA newsletter and partnerships with local news media (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

On March 29th, the Eastern Arizona Courier/Copper Era published an article about Trualta, a new resource for caregivers available throughout the region: <u>https://www.eacourier.com/news/families-dealing-with-dementia-invited-to-try-new-online-educational-program/article_c54fec24-8cb5-11eb-bd77-6305cb09affe.html</u> The editor of the Eastern Arizona Courier graciously offered to feature SEAGO AAA program announcements and assist in developing regular news stories about AAA programs as a public service in Graham and Greenlee Counties. As mentioned in Goal 1, Objective A, Tactic 1 above, the SEAGO-AAA Facebook page and the SEAGO-AAA website also substantially increased visibility metrics.

Tactic 2. Update provider subaward agreements to include signage and/or promotion requirements crediting SEAGO AAA (By 7/1/2021)

No progress since the February report. See Central Administration Goal 2, Tactic 2 below.

Tactic 3. Provide links to AAA programs and services to member entities for inclusion on their websites and social media pages (By 7/1/2021)

No progress since the February report. However, we continue to enjoy partnerships with Chambers of Commerce in Cochise, Graham, and Santa Cruz Counties who post links to AAA events on their websites, events calendars and Facebook pages. A new AAA partner in this effort includes public libraries across the region who will share Trualta resources within their respective communities. See also Central Administration Goal 2, Objective A, Tactic 3 below.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND TACTICS

GOAL 1: IDENTIFY, PROVIDE, AND ENHANCE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND CONSTITUENTS

Objective A: Improve Local Economic Development Capacity (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Develop an economic development tool kit for each member entity based upon the economic development needs and characteristics of each respective jurisdiction (By 7/1/2022)

As previously reported, the Economic Development team continues to work with NAU's Economic Policy Institute to design and develop an economic recovery toolkit and to deliver technical assistance and capacity building to member entities, local businesses and other stakeholders impacted by COVID-19. As many of you now know, Stephen Peterson has been recruited as our new Economic Recovery Coordinator (ERC). Since coming on board January 19th, Stephen's primary focus has been gathering information that will inform a technical assistance funding application to EDA to procure a consultant who will perform a region-wide broadband study. The study will identify gaps in broadband service across the region and prepare preliminary design concepts for construction activities to address those gaps. Such a study should position SEAGO to access funding to complete design and the ultimate construction of system improvements needed to improve broadband access in the SEAGO region.

Objective B: Enhance Jurisdictional Opportunities to Attract Industry (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Facilitate planning process for those jurisdictions that have not completed a target industry study (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2022)

Over the past three months, the primary focus of the Economic Development team has been completing the update of the regional five-year CEDS and implementing the scope of work for the supplemental EDA planning grant discussed in previous reports. The priorities and issues expressed by participating member entities and their proposed economic development projects are now reflected in the current draft of the CEDS. The former Economic Development Program Manager had met with elected and appointed officials at the Cities of Benson, Huachuca, Willcox, Nogales, and Santa Cruz County to discuss their interest in, and ways to fund and initiate a target industry study and strategic planning process in these communities. We remain willing to engage with communities interested in a target industry study, but we will most likely need to defer those efforts until FY 2022. In addition, we will investigate how target industry studies may be included in the economic development and recovery toolkits being developed by NAU (see Objective A, Tactic 1 above).

Tactic 2. Support implementation of the target industry strategic plans for jurisdictions that have them (7/1/2022 – 7/1/2023)

SEAGO remains committed to participating in the REDI Grant planning process, which will identify and develop regional collaboration opportunities between Graham and Greenlee Counties for implementing their target industry strategic plan. After several months of anticipated changes on the consulting team in charge of the REDI Grant (formerly of McClure/Alchemy), the new consultant, (Broad Ripple) is now attempting to revive stakeholder interest and has scheduled meetings to discuss project implementation concepts.

Objective C: Expand Jurisdictional Outreach and Marketing (By 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1. Provide assistance to interested jurisdictions to create and utilize branding and marketing campaigns (By 7/1/2022)

No progress since the February report. As stated above, SEAGO remains committed to participating in and coordinating the REDI Grant process which will provide assistance to Graham and Greenlee Counties to implement tourism Initiatives, to include creating joint branding and

marketing campaigns. In addition, we will investigate how branding and marketing campaigns may be included in the economic development and recovery toolkits being developed by NAU (see Objective A, Tactic 1 above).

Tactic 2. Provide assistance to interested jurisdictions to develop 'Shop Local' campaigns (By 7/1/2022)

No progress since the February report. However, we will investigate how 'Shop Local' campaigns may be included in the economic development and recovery toolkits being developed by NAU (see Objective A, Tactic 1 above).

GOAL 2: BUILD AWARENESS OF SEAGO AND THE VALUE OF OUR SERVICES

Objective A: Improve the visibility of SEAGO through partnerships (7/1/2022 – 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1. Continue promoting news and announcements about program initiatives and accomplishment through social media and partnerships with local news media (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

No progress since the February report. However, the SEAGO EDD Facebook page continues to highlight items of interest throughout the four-county region and Arizona.

Tactic 2. Provide links to Economic Development Data Portals, programs and services to member entities for inclusion on their websites and social media pages (By 7/1/2021)

Last September, the Asset Inventory SEAGO Economic Development website (<u>https://southeastarizonaeconomy.com/</u>) was updated to include current detailed data on our region's Counties and Municipalities. In addition, the Asset Inventory includes links to the economic development pages for each community that has developed one. We consider this tactic complete to the extent of our capabilities unless our assistance is requested. It is now up to the member entities to create links on their websites to the economic development resources offered on the SEAGO EDD website.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND TACTICS

GOAL 1: IDENTIFY, PROVIDE, AND ENHANCE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND CONSTITUENTS

Objective A: Enhance Capacity of Central Administration Staffing (By 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1. Cross-train staff (By 7/1/2023)

No new progress since the February report. Cross-training of Central Administration staff continues in the accounting area and more recently, the transfer of certain responsibilities in the Human Resources area. The development of an accounting manual is ongoing, and a progress in developing an IT manual continues as time permits.

Tactic 2. Develop a succession plan for the Executive Director including delegation of IT, Human Resources, and the Water Quality Management Program responsibilities (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

No new progress since the February report. Progress continues in transferring HR responsibilities and the development of manuals (see Tactic 1 above). With the additional capacity in the CDBG program, it's anticipated the transfer of the WQMP responsibilities may begin in FY 2022.

Objective B: Enhance Employee Services (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Advocate to increase the State mileage reimbursement rate to match the Federal rate (By 7/1/2023)

No progress since the February report. The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically reduced travel by SEAGO employees, and thus, has reduced the urgency to pursue this issue. However, we continue to look for opportunities to pursue this Tactic.

Tactic 2. Investigate and offer improved, affordable group health insurance options (Annually 7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

As previously reported, Central Administration now offers a full menu of plan options for our employees and we consider this Tactic substantially complete for this policy year. We intend to review our plan options during the next open enrollment period to identify opportunities to possibly enhance coverage options for the SEAGO team.

Tactic 3. Implement stipends for employees utilizing personal cell phones for SEAGO business (By 7/1/2021)

Our internal policy for cell phone reimbursements for employees using their personal cell phones to conduct SEAGO business has been implemented and this Tactic is complete.

Objective C: Secure Adequate, Affordable, Long-Term Facilities for the Area Agency on Aging (By 7/1/2022)

Tactic 1. Conduct market research for commercial office space in Bisbee area (By 7/1/2021)

The Executive Board approved our request to purchase the modular office building at their February meeting, and we consider this Tactic complete.

Tactic 2. Investigate costs to purchase, install, and retrofit a modular building for the AAA offices at the Main Office location (By 7/1/2021)

The Executive Board approved our request to purchase the modular office building at their February meeting. The building has been purchased, prepped for transport and is scheduled to be moved to our Highway 92 campus May 17th. Soils testing and engineering for the foundations support system has been completed. Plan review and permitting from the ADOH Office of Manufactured Housing is underway. The City of Bisbee has reviewed and approved our plans and issued our building permit. APS has visited the site and the design for a power line extension to the building is in process. Our internet service provider (SparkLight) and our phone system service provider (BlackPoint) have provided their infrastructure requirements to serve the new building and associated materials have been purchased. A local contractor is currently prepping the site, trenching for the water, sewer, and IT infrastructure to serve the building, and pouring foundations for the perimeter support piers. We will continue to report progress on preparing the new office for occupancy under this Tactic as the project moves forward.

Tactic 3. Negotiate affordable lease extension at existing AAA offices; or purchase, install and retrofit modular office building at Main Office location (By 7/1/2022)

The Executive Board approved our request to purchase the modular office building at their February meeting, and we consider this Tactic complete.

GOAL 2: BUILD AWARENESS OF SEAGO AND THE VALUE OF OUR SERVICES

Objective A: Improve the visibility of SEAGO through partnerships (7/1/2021 – 7/1/2023)

Tactic 1.Continue promoting news and announcements about initiatives and
accomplishments of SEAGO programs through social media and partnerships

See Transportation Goal 2, Objective A, Tactic 1 and Area Agency on Aging Goal 2, Objective A, Tactic 1.

Tactic 2. Update AAA provider subaward agreements, CDBG TA contracts, and Transportation partnership agreements to include signage and/or promotion requirements crediting SEAGO programs (By 7/1/2021)

No progress since the February meeting. Central Administration hopes to develop standard language to be used in our Agreements and Contracts. However, many of the funding agreements with our state and federal partners have certain prohibitions and restrictions regarding Advertising, Publishing and Promotion when there is potential 'commercial benefit' to SEAGO. In reviewing the contract language, it was decided that it might be prudent to seek legal advice to better understand any potential impact pursuing this Tactic might have on existing and future contracts or subaward agreements with our funding agencies. Our attorney of record recently retired from the practice of law and we are transitioning to a new attorney.

Tactic 3. Provide links to SEAGO programs and services to member entities for inclusion on their websites and social media pages (By 7/1/2021)

Absent contact information for the specific individuals who manage our member entities' social media and website pages and direction from management to inspire such a collaborative effort, making progress on this Tactic has been challenging.

Tactic 4. Build Central Administration capacity to free up time for the Executive Director to attend City and Town Council and County Board of Supervisor meetings (By 7/1/2022)

No progress since the February meeting. COVID-19 has restricted in-person attendance of public meetings of our member entities. However, the Executive Director did attend the April 16th WebEx meeting of the State Transportation Board to advocate for including a DCR for a new connector road to serve the new commercial LPOE in Douglas in ADOT's tentative Five-Year Facilities Construction Program.

Attachments: None

Action Requested:

Information Only Action Requested Below:



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	DINA CURTISS, ACCOUNTING MANAGER
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	FINANCE REPORT

Attached is the SEAGO Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the period ending March 31, 2021 and Fiscal Year 2021 to date.

I also wanted to mention that the Audited Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for Fiscal Year 2020 will be presented to the Executive Board at their May 21st meeting. There was one significant deficiency identified, but we had no material weaknesses this year. In Fiscal Year 2019, the Auditors provided 12 pages with 22 closing entries; in Fiscal Year 2020, this number was substantially reduced to 1.5 pages with only 6 entries!

In order to manage the size of your agenda packet, the Fiscal Year 2020 audit has been uploaded to the SEAGO website. If you wish to review the audit in detail, <u>please click here</u>. I will answer any questions you may have regarding the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures at the meeting.

Attachment: SEAGO Quarterly Report Ending 03.31.2021

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below

SEAGO

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - R&E that ties to Budget - Unposted Transactions Included In Report

From 1/1/2021 Through 3/31/2021

(In Whole Numbers)

		Cur Pd Actual	YTD Actual	Total Budget	% of Budget Used
Revenue					
General Fund	101	(2,346)	122	100,000	0.12%
Agency Response	301	(4,691)	70,780	43,745	161.80%
Community Development Block Grant	302	51,120	125,210	257,184	48.68%
Economic Development	303	19,731	57,661	110,358	52.24%
Environmental Quality	306	774	2,336	8,500	27.48%
Elderly Transit	307	2,370	7,391	9,739	75.89%
Public Transit	308	1,905	20,638	21,664	95.26%
State Planning & Research	309	34,175	114,355	200,150	57.13%
Area Agency on Aging	310	321,141	633,326	1,008,156	62.82%
Regional Mobility Management	311	22,618	22,618	168,750	13.40%
RMM Training	314	0	8,966	100,000	8.96%
Willcox Feasibility Study	323	0	22,915	39,791	57.58%
End of Life - Lovell Foundation	327	0	0	166,950	0.00%
Cochise Co Public Transit Consolidation	328	22,603	37,616	125,000	30.09%
Santa Cruz Co RTA Feasibility Study	329	4,459	5,573	80,000	6.96%
Willcox Transit IGA	342	2,666	2,666	0	0.00%
Total Revenue		476,523	1,132,175	2,439,987	46.40%
Expenses					
General Fund	101	0	0	100,000	0.00%
Agency Response	301	5,845	21,324	43,745	48.74%
Community Development Block Grant	302	29,471	78,308	257,184	30.44%
Economic Development	303	19,731	57,652	110,358	52,24%
Environmental Quality	306	774	2,336	8,500	27.48%
Elderly Transit	307	2,370	7,391	9,739	75.89%
Public Transit	308	1,905	20,638	21,664	95.26%
State Planning & Research	309	34,175	114,355	200,150	57.13%
Area Agency on Aging	310	323,080	618,100	1,008,156	61.30%
Regional Mobility Management	311	22,618	22,618	168,750	13.40%
RMM Training	314	0	8,966	100,000	8.96%
Willcox Feasibility Study	323	3	22,918	39,791	57,59%
End of Life - Lovell Foundation	327	10,883	31,832	166,950	19.06%
Cochise Co Public Transit Consolidation	328	22,603	37,616	125,000	30.09%
Santa Cruz Co RTA Feasibility Study	329	4,459	5,573	80,000	6.96%
Willcox Transit IGA	342	2,666	2,666	0	0.00%
Total Expenses		480,582	1,052,293	2,439,987	43.13%
Balance		(4,059)	79,882	0	0.00%



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	KEITH DENNIS, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	CDBG AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

CDBG Regional Account Updates

We are in the application round for this year's Regional Account CDBG. The SEAGO region CDBG allocation for this year increased for the second year in a row, to \$1,336,517. The current status of this year's Regional Account is as follows:

Patagonia: Street Improvements (McKeown Avenue); Graham County: Daytime respite homeless care facility; Clifton: second public hearing scheduled for May; and Willcox: second public hearing scheduled for June.

SEAGO CDBG staff will bring an action item for approval of SEAGO technical assistance contracts for these projects later this year.

SEAGO CARES

At the last round of meetings, the Executive Board passed a resolution authorizing SEAGO to apply for CARES Act CDBG funds to be used for COVID-related emergency subsistence payments in Cochise, Graham and Greenlee Counties. We are pleased to report our application was funded. A press release is attached to this report, and the anticipate the program will be up and running as of May 1st. These funds will be available until fully obligated, or September 30, 2022. Because DES is offering assistance with rent and utilities directly from their website, SEAGO will prioritize mortgage payments. We have sent the attached press release to all newspapers in the service area, and have advertised the program on our social media channels. All of our member communities are encouraged to participate, and we invite you to print the attached and post it in visible places, or spread the word by whatever means you see fit.

Method of Distribution

At our August meetings later this year, we will be bringing forward an action item to update the Method of Distribution which governs how the CDBG Regional Account funding is allocated in our region. It is due for renewal this year. Unless our communities seek to change the method by which CDBG Regional Account funds are allocated, staff will recommend renewal of the MOD as it is currently structured.

Staffing Up

Finally, we are pleased to announce the newest addition to the SEAGO team. Ms. Susan Bronson has recently come aboard as a full time employee in the Community Development Program. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the job, and will initially be working on the CDBG program administration tasks such as labor standards monitoring and environmental reviews.

Attachments:	SEAGO CARES Press Releas	e
Action Requested:	☑ Information Only	Action Requested Below

HAVE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW FALLEN BEHIND ON MORTGAGE PAYMENTS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS?

If so, you may be eligible for assistance through a new program called SEAGO CARES.

SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) has received a Community Development Block Grant through the Arizona Department of Housing to help people in Cochise, Graham and Greenlee Counties who have been impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. Federally funded through the 2020 CARES Act, SEAGO CARES is a new program available for qualifying households who need help with mortgage and other payments such as rent, utilities, and in some cases food or clothing.

Qualifying households are defined as having:

- 1. Full time residency in Cochise, Graham or Greenlee Counties;
- 2. Qualified for unemployment or has otherwise experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs or experienced a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- 3. A risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability;
- 4. A household income at or below 80% of the area median income.

For qualifying households enrolled in the program, SEAGO will make payments directly to mortgage and utility companies and/or landlord. These funds will be on a first come, first served basis, and the program will last until September 30, 2022 or when the program funds are expended. Because other agencies such as DES are currently assisting qualifying households with rent and utility payments, SEAGO CARES will give priority to those with a COVID-related mortgage hardship.

The application can be found online at <u>www.seago.org/cares</u>. Persons without access to the internet are encouraged to call the SEAGO offices at 520-432-5301, extension 203. Paper applications are also available at the SEAGO offices, 1403 W. Highway 92, Bisbee Arizona 85603.



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	MARIA PORTER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise the Administrative Council of recent activity in the SEAGO Economic Development District (EDD).

Recent Activity

1. USDA REDI Grant

The goal of the REDI grant is to study the development of regional collaboration opportunities between Graham and Greenlee Counties for implementing their target industry strategic plan, along with other potential economic development collaboration opportunities.

Background: The planning process was being led by the McClure Engineering Economic Development Division (target industry strategic plan implementation), and Co.Starters (entrepreneur training), and is being coordinated by SEAGO under the guidance of the grant management team consisting of representatives from Graham and Greenlee Counties, and FMI.

Current Status: The REDI Grant project was paused for 7 months due to the contractor, McClure, dissolving their placemaking team during the pandemic. McClure has contracted with Broad Ripple Strategies for the remainder of the USDA REDI project. The REDI Grant Team met recently on April 21st, 2021 to review the Copper Duo marketing website and discussed the potential organizational structure for the Graham County Economic Development Corporation (GCEDC). The contractors are developing an organizational structure, to include options for staffing, programming, and budgeting, to be presented and discussed at the GCEDC's board meeting on May 18. Lastly, the contractor is also working on a draft "non-compete" agreement between Graham and Greenlee counties to help build economic development collaboration and goodwill in the Copper Duo region.

2. 2021 – 2025 CEDS Process

Background: The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is the 5 year plan that captures the current economic environment and what ED goals we want to achieve in the next 5 years. The goals identified in the CEDS are designed to help guide our region into a prosperous sustainable economy. The 2021 - 2015 CEDS is due to EDA in April 2021.

Current Status: The CEDS Committees' final meetings were in February, whereas the regional groups provided feedback on the 2021 CEDS and Project List Regional Ranking Criteria. The Project List process was a success with 9 communities providing projects to be included in the CEDS. The scoring committee reviewed and ranked community projects based on alignment with the EDA Priorities and CEDS Goals. We are currently in the process of incorporating the final

feedback from EDA. We are on schedule to submit the 2021-2025 CEDS to EDA by the April 30th, 2021 deadline and will present the CEDS at the August Board Meeting.

3. Economic Advisory Council

The 2021 CEDS is a living document and will continuously be updated to reflect the priorities of the region. The goal of the CEDS is to be our economic development roadmap over the next 5 years to stability, growth, and resiliency. We will continue this effort through the Economic Advisory Council (EAC). The EAC is a continuation of the CEDS Committee and will act as a community coalition to foster economic development collaboration with regionally strategic initiatives. The EAC, starting in March 2021, is meeting monthly and will be establishing CEDS Focus Area Sub-Committees to review data and develop specific project priorities in relation to the CEDS Action Plan. The CEDS addresses many needs of our region, which includes transportation, housing, and infrastructure, initiatives that overlap with multiple SEAGO programs. The EAC will be a platform, and act as a hub of information, to share resources and updates on all economic development initiatives throughout the region. The March and April EAC Meetings included discussion around:

- a. Economic Advisory Council Introduction and Purpose
- b. CEDS Update
- c. Identifying potential trainings and resources
- d. Agency/Project Updates
- e. Workforce Housing Resources: Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab Presentation
- f. 2020 Tax Revenue Data- How did COVID impact our economy? (NAU Presentation)
- g. Development of CEDS Focus Area Subcommittees

4. 2020 EDA Supplemental Grant

We are in the process of developing a Resiliency Community Survey to gain local insight on the impact of the pandemic on families and identify resiliency opportunities to include in the Resiliency Toolkit. The Survey will be shared to all staff and board members for public distribution in May. The Resiliency Toolkit will be exploring:

- a. Potential risks to the SEAGO Region
- b. Identify federal, state, and local resources to mitigate hazards and disasters for individual families and community-wide efforts
- c. Identify a coordinated process across the 4-county region, to result in safer communities
- d. Identify public and private organizations to engage for resources and collaborative coordination, to include stakeholders that allow individuals be more resilient
- e. Utilizing the Focus Areas in the SEAGO CEDS, detail economic resiliency factors and create corresponding action plan/tasks
- f. Create a marketing/awareness plan for available resources, with an easily accessible platform

5. Broadband

During the 2020-2021 CEDS development process, SEAGO's CEDS Ranking Committee evaluated project lists from each member entity and it was determined that Broadband Infrastructure expansion was the #1 regionally ranked project contributing to a more resilient economy. The lack of a robust Broadband Infrastructure is seen as a huge contributor to the lack of industry leaders and private investors expanding their operations within the SEAGO region. The recent pandemic exacerbated the lack of digital connectivity throughout the SEAGO region, which prevented many institutions and households lacking strong broadband connectivity from being able to adapt to the virtual environment of remote work, online shopping, and e-education platforms for students.

In response to the identified need for broadband, we are working on applying for an EDA Technical Assistance Grant to develop a Regional Broadband Strategic Plan. The Broadband Plan is necessary to access various funding sources to construct the broadband infrastructure in our region. A major contributor to the success of planning a broadband infrastructure expansion effort has been in the formation of a regional coalition, as part of SEAGO's deliberate development of Economic Advisory Council sub-committees to tackle the key list of priorities the region's member entities have committed to implementing.

The first major task that the SEAGO Broadband Coalition has accomplished was the development of a GIS interactive map, illustrating all of the region's Anchor Institutions, Rights of Way, Opportunity Zones, Transmission Lines, and Census Tract data pointing to current local connectivity.

6. New Initiatives

As the EAC moves forward and the CEDS document lives-on, we are working to provide economic development support and resources to our region. The Broadband Regional Plan is one example of a project that will provide the entire region with an opportunity to expand infrastructure capacity and be ready for construction funding. We are also researching expanding workforce development opportunities through the AmeriCorps Vista program to add regional capacity around Housing, Case Management, and Workforce Training. We continue to support the Community Development program, as many of our initiatives align, and assist with the Cochise County Continuum of Care. As we move forward and research these various initiatives, we will keep the board apprised of our progress.

Attachments: None

Action Requested:

☐ Information Only ☐ Action Requested Below:



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING PROGRAM DIRECTOR
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	AAA PROGRAM UPDATES

Administrative Updates:

- SEAGO-AAA is moving forward with the next steps necessary to fulfil our strategic plan objective (Goal 1, Objective C) bringing Case Management in-house. Carrie Gibbons will begin shadowing one of our regional case managers for guidance and training. Carrie now holds her Boston University, Options Counseling Certificate for Advocacy Disability Resource Center (ADRC), enabling her to understand the holistic approach of case management. We intend to start with Santa Cruz County and slowly move to Cochise County. We feel confident that strong partnerships with our member entities will enable a smooth transition to benefit our elderly and disabled clients.
- The American Rescue Plan grants AAA Region VI approximately \$1.3 million in funds to cover the needs for supportive services, nutrition, family caregiver support services, and more. See table below for details:

		Total	Region VI
			4.77%
Title			
IIIB	Supportive Services	\$9,000,000	\$429,300
Title			
IIIC	Nutrition	\$15,000,000	\$715,500
Title			
IIID	Evidence-Based Healthy Living	\$900,000	\$42,930
Title			
IIIE	Family Caregiver Supportive Services	\$3,000,000	\$143,100
Title			
VII	Elder Law and Ombudsman	\$200,000	\$9,540
	All Programs	\$28,000,000	\$1,340,370

American Rescue Plan Funds

READI Meals Program: SEAGO-AAA received the Vapor Sorption Analyzer (VSA) at the end of March; the VSA is crucial in creating the food safety plans. The set-up is complete with the assistance of Meter Group, and the VSA will begin analyzing data soon. The ACL Innovations in Nutrition Grant posted on

March 29. SEAGO-AAA has submitted a Letter of Intent by the May 24th deadline to request funding for the READI meals program development. If awarded the grant, funding will carry us through the next phase of the project. Training videos will prepare the congregate sites for using the Freeze Dryers under the continuing COVID restrictions. Two of the three training videos are complete.

Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP):

- Trualta The Trualta portal Launched March 2, 2021. The primary focus has been on Outreach, Community Education, and creating partnerships. Eleven caregivers have been on-boarded and active, and two additional caregivers have attended a Zoom Trualta Introduction meeting and have activations pending. Karen Enriquez has partnered with the Greenlee County public library and Safford public library to present the Trualta portal and have it readily available for caregivers registered under the family caregiver support program. Karen will make these connections with libraries in Cochise County and Santa Cruz County in the next few weeks.
- Community Connections Panel Zoom Meetings focus on reaching out to local organizations and promoting SEAGO Area Agency on Aging programs and services.
- Hello Neighbor Program The FCSP delivered and distributed SEAGO AAA bags filled with informational literature and "swag" to promote community education and information to Senior Community residents at Casa del Sol in Sierra Vista.

Contact Karen Enriquez at 520-432-2528 Extension 221 or <u>kenriquez@seago.org</u> for more information.

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCO): LTC facilities have seen a massive reduction of COVID-19 cases. Most residents who want to be vaccinated have received the vaccine; the exception is a new resident coming into a long-term care setting. Facilities are committed to ensuring that all residents who wish to get the vaccine receive it. Arizona Department of Health Services and the Center for Medicare Services have put in new rules to loosen restrictions on long-term care visitation inside and outside of a facility. The new rules are based on the percentage of residents vaccinated and the severity codes in that county. That means visitation from facility to facility may be different. The LTC Ombudsman can now see more than one facility per day, but the PPE and safety restrictions are still in place. The AAA Ombudsman Coordinator has received both doses of the Moderna vaccine.

All the LTCO volunteers will soon be going to Phoenix to meet in person to attend train the trainer training modules for new ombudsmen. The new training regulations will go into place in October 2021. The Fraud and Abuse task force is forming, members representing APS, Public Fiduciary, Health Departments, and more will increase the availability of services for abuse and fraud victims as there is a shortage of professional guardians in our region. The task force will be meeting bi-monthly

State Health Insurance Program – Senior Medicare Patrol (SHIP-SMP): The SEAGO Area Agency on Aging SHIP-SMP team of volunteers and the new program coordinator met for their first gathering in a public setting since the beginning of the pandemic one year ago. The team was comprised of: Ramona MacMurtrie (now retired), Lisa Conley of Hereford, Kim Jackson of Whetstone, Don Behnke (also a member of ACOA) of Sierra Vista, and Amalia Marin, SEAGO's new SHIP-SMP Program Coordinator.

The group unanimously agreed to establish a monthly Zoom meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:00 am, starting on April 13. These virtual meetings will accomplish several objectives, including team building, training, and information sharing, developing strategies to reach many more seniors and disabled clients as the COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease up.

SEAGO Area Agency on Aging is blessed to have such experienced and talented volunteers, without whom we could not serve our clients as effectively. SEAGO SHIP-SMP volunteers provide personalized service and critical information to save our clients many thousands of health care dollars each year. In 2020, Ramona MacMurtrie and the team saved our clients over \$275,000; we hope to exceed this amount in 2021.

On March 22, 2021, Ramona and Amalia held the first Facebook-live Scam Jam of 2021, which over you can 1.400 people viewed. lf vou missed it. still watch it on our facebook.com/seagoareaagencyonaging/ page, where it is still getting "likes". Unfortunately, due to the isolation and loneliness that COVID-19 created, many seniors have fallen victim to the brazen schemes of shysters who, by sleight of hand, have stolen personal information and money from vulnerable older adults. We plan to present more events like this, including guest speakers and experts in preventing elder fraud and exploitation.

To schedule a telephone appointment for assistance with Medicare issues, please call: Amalia Marin at 520-432-2528 ext. 222, or email: <u>shiphelp@seago.org</u>. Individuals can also go to <u>https://www.seago.org/state-health-insurance-assistance-program</u> and fill out a questionnaire or request an appointment online.

Health and Nutrition Program (HNP): The HNP has continued to deliver virtual Tai Chi classes and added the first Spanish virtual Tai Chi in March. Plans are underway to prepare for the reopening of inperson classes in June or when deemed appropriate. Shi Martin has completed the virtual training for A Matter of Balance. Moving forward, we will be ready to offer the evidence-based class virtually if necessary to stay in compliance with the Evidence-Based requirements.

Explore the evidence-based programs on our <u>Facebook</u> page that are proven to help older adults reduce their risk of falling. You can also visit our <u>webpage</u> to find a program near you! Check our calendar of events for specific class information or call (520) 432-2528 Ext. 306 or email: <u>cmeyers@seago.org</u> to inquire about upcoming classes in your Community!

End of Life - Thoughtful Life Conversations (EOL): We have many exciting EOL projects taking off. Our Vaccine: ACP project provides COVID-19 vaccination sites throughout our region with Advance Directives and our AAA brochure with our contact information for further help and resources. This information is given out while people are waiting after they have received their vaccination. Our 1:1 Help with ACP project is expanding as we offer 1-on-1 help with advance care planning and directives completion (via Zoom/phone at this time). This is also being offered throughout our region. Our work with Cochise College continues with educating the nurses on End-of-Life care issues and ACP. A new relationship with the Cochise College Program Director for the Home Health Aides and CNAs has been forged to provide ACP and EOL care education. We continue to deliver Thoughtful Life Conversations (TLC) workshops to the Community and have a TLC scheduled for a local church via Zoom this month. We also offer these workshops to businesses and organizations that would like to have a presentation.

OTHER INFORMATION

Facebook Statistics: Between March and April 2021, we reached 2,104 people, with 600 clicks on the page and 57 video views, and we currently have 799 followers. The page is updated daily with verified, objective information to keep our followers up to date on the latest news and information that could impact their lives. We invite you to follow us at https://www.facebook.com/seagoareaagencyonaging.

Get Set-Up: The Area Agency on Aging continues to partner with Get Set-Up to offer free online classes to our older population in the four-county region. This platform has over 170 different courses to include: Basics of Zoom, creating playlists, how to utilize your iPhone or Android, Facebook, and more. These

classes' facilitators are people over the age of 50, making it easier for our aging population to understand as they teach. In January 2021, we began promoting Get Set-Up through social media, our local Chambers of Commerce, and many more venues available to us. Thus far, we have 19 constant followers who learn different ways to navigate the new technology available to them. We encourage our communities to take advantage of the free **SEAGO** coupon available until December 31, 2021.

Annual Report: Our Annual Report for SFY 2020 is posted to our website and ready for your review. You can click here to access the report.

Attachments: AAA-Get Set-Up Digital flier; Trualta Introduction Flyer; Governor's Proclamation for OAM

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below:

LEARN AND SOCIALIZE ONLINE!

Connect with curious people such as yourself in small and mid-sized classes



Welcome to the SEAGO Area Agency on Aging's Online Learning Center for Older Adults!

SEAGO Area Agency on Aging serves people in Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz Counties, age 60 and over, their unpaid family caregivers, and disabled adults. The goal of an Area Agency on Aging is to enable older adults to maintain maximum independence and dignity in their homes, long-term care, and communities. We are pleased to sponsor these fun and interactive sessions and classes for mature learners, designed to help you stay active and engaged, learn new things, and support healthy aging.

Go to: https://www.getsetup.io/partner/SEAGO

Use coupon code: **SEAGO** to waive any fees associated with small group classes. Take the "New Member Orientation" to get started!

WHAT IS GETSETUP?

GetSetUp is an online community of people ages 50+ who want to get more out of life, learn new skills with others, and gain new experiences.

Specially trained GetSetUp Guides and Social Hosts, lead classes from how to get started with technology to starting your own business. These classes are live so learners can ask questions, share experiences, and ensure their goals are achieved.

Whatever your background, experience, or education there is something on GetSetUp for you.

Learning Geared Toward Older Adults



GetSetUp provides live online sessions on tech tools, apps, health and wellness, and many more topics geared towards older adult learners. Those who started this year less tech-savvy than younger members of the population are especially vulnerable to being disconnected.

GetSetUp offers re-skilled retired educators as Guides to teach their peers' online tools and other classes to help them feel more independent, empowered, and connected.

Classes are taught in small groups so that learners work at their own pace in a supportive environment. Classes teach tools like how to use your smartphone, healthy meals in 30 minutes or less, and how to host events on Zoom to ensure confidence, ease of use, and independence. When the pandemic crisis hit, GetSetUp already had a solid core team of Guides to help teach people and wanted to provide support to their customer base and the public at large.

Therefore, they provided access to 40+ FREE live online classes focused on older learners to help get them up to speed quickly on essential technology for life in the current pandemic stay-athome situation. These included skills such as grocery delivery, telemedicine solutions, Zoom, Uber, and more.

The goal was to help reduce the stress of adults who normally act as 'tech geniuses' for their parents or grandparents by providing live remote help for adults who have been cut off from their in-person help.

Classes are taught in an interactive, self-paced hands-on setting with peers who have been there and done that! GetSetUp helped train senior school teachers in distance learning through partnering with The Learning Accelerator. They helped these teachers understand how to effectively use tools such as Google Classroom, Zoom, and other online teaching tools.

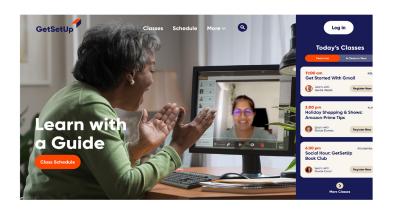
Need help from GetSetUp? Email help@getsetup.io or call 1-888-559-1614

With the second wave of the pandemic and winter approaching -- which will limit mobility for many people -- GetSetUp is ready to meet the challenge. Classes are provided daily around a variety of topics from creativity, health, wellness, to the classic technology classes.

Plus now Social Hours offer a chance for learners to join and share their wealth of knowledge on a shared topic of interest or participate in fun activities together from playing cards to trading movie recommendations. There is a little bit of something for everyone.

GetSetUp created a platform that enables seniors to serve as the superheroes of today's economy, tapping a huge, growing population of retired educators to help teach essential tech skills to their peers. Organizations, companies, and the government see GetSetUp as a crucial resource to help teach older and/or less-tech savvy consumer tech products.

Organizations such as AARP, Assisted Livings, the YMCA, use GetSetUp to provided tools for older adults around staying connected and health and wellness. GetSetUp continues to gain momentum and grow.



LIVE & INTERACTIVE

Unlike watching videos, GetSetUp classes are all live. GetSetUp classes involve active participation of all learners. We believe in learning by doing.

ENGAGING AND FUN

Our classes are taught by older adults who bring all their wisdom and experience into the class. Learners are actively engaged in fun discussions and practice.

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

Our classes are small, relaxed, and perfect for people who want to build new relationships while learning a new skill.

ASK QUESTIONS

Ask as many questions as you want! Our Guides are patient and committed to ensuring that learners are set up and confident to achieve their goals.





The SEAGO, Area Agency on Aging, is excited to share Trualta, an online learning system designed to provide skill based training and resources for family caregivers.

Built specifically for family caregivers, Trualta helps caregivers reduce stress, find local resources, and provide better care for their loved ones. Every caregiver has a custom learning journey, so you can choose the topics that interest you and learn any time of day. Trualta content is dementia focused and topics include personal care, safety and injury prevention, and caregiver wellness. Trualta also offers "expert level" dementia training from professional-level providers like Teepa Snow, adapted for the family caregiver.

Registration is by invitation only.



Contact us for more information today!

Karen Enriquez SEAGO Area Agency on Aging kenriquez@seago.org (520) 432-2528 x 221

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Arizona is proud to be called home to a growing number of older Americans who enrich our communities through their diverse life experiences; and

WHEREAS, Arizona continues to benefit when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are included and encouraged to share their successes and stories of resilience; and

WHEREAS, Arizona recognizes the need to nurture ourselves, reinforce our strength, and continue to thrive in times of both joy and difficulty; and

WHEREAS, Arizona is devoted to and supports the expanding network of community partners in advocating for older adults, their families, and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Arizona is committed to strengthening our communities by connecting with and supporting older adults, their families, and caregivers and acknowledging their many valuable contributions to society.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2021 as

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

and encourage Arizonans to recognize older adults for their resilience including those who have served and supported them as essential contributors to the abounding strength of our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Fifteenth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-One, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fifth. *ATTEST:*

SECRETARY OF STATE



MEMO TO:	EXECUTIVE BOARD
THROUGH:	RANDY HEISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM:	CHRIS VERTREES, TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
DATE:	MAY 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES

The following is a brief update regarding the Transportation and Transit projects and activities that SEAGO is currently involved in:

ADOT FTA Section 5305(e) Planning Grant: On December 30, 2020, SEAGO received notice from ADOT that it received an \$80,000 FTA Section 5305(e) Transit Planning Grant. During the initial outbreak of COVID-19, we found that many of our FTA Section 5311 and FTA Section 5310 providers lacked emergency planning tools and protocols to not only address pandemic issues, but lacked basic procedures to address a variety of potential internal and external emergencies. The grant provides funding for a Regional Transit Emergency Coordination Plan. The grant has been included in our FY22/23 ADOT Work Program and work on the project will begin in July.

SEAGO 2021-2022 Regional Transportation Coordination Plan: Inclusion in a locally developed coordination plan is a requirement for FTA Section 5310 funding eligibility. The Coordination Plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, seniors, and people with low incomes; provides strategies for meeting those local needs; and prioritizes transportation services implementation. projects funding and The plan and for can be accessed at: https://www.keepandshare.com/doc12/252557/seago-fy21-coordination-plan-04-19-21-pdf-34-4meg?da=v.

ADOT FY 2021/2022 FTA Section 5310 Grant Cycle: SEAGO coordinates the regional FTA Section 5310 Grant Process for ADOT. This includes technical assistance in the development of grant applications, review of grant applications, and leading the regional ranking process of 5310 projects. SEAGO completed the process on April 15, 2021. In total, SEAGO reviewed 44 projects totaling \$1,112,250 in federal funding requests.

Cochise County Public Transit Consolidation Study: In February 2019, SEAGO received an FTA Section 5304 Planning Grant to conduct a Cochise County Public Transportation Consolidation Study. With the addition of Willcox, Cochise County now has four rural public transportation programs (FTA Section 5311) and a FTA Section 5310 program (VICaP) that fills many of the transit gaps not covered by our 5311 programs.

The purpose of the study is to analyze the agencies' costs for grant preparation, administration, service, labor, capital, technology, sources of local match, and marketing. The goal is to identify areas of consolidation that are feasible and can present significant cost savings to our transit operators. SEAGO recently completed the data collection and data analysis phase of the project. This information was presented to the study's TAC on January 28, 2021. A feasibility paper is being finalized. The study will be posted for a 45-day public comment period by May 3, 2021. Notices will be provided when the study is ready for public review.

Fixed Route Public Transit in Graham County: A public transit feasibility study is a requirement by ADOT to access FTA Section 5311 (Rural Public Transit) funding. In general those studies are good for a 5-year period. In 2015, a Public Transit Feasibility Study was completed for Graham County. The study useful life has expired and an update of the plan is required. SEAGO has partnered with the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) to update the study. NADO secured a USDA grant for this project. This will bring several national transit planning organizations to the table that SEAGO would not normally have access to. This includes Western Transportation Institute and the National Rural Transit Assistance Program. An introduction meeting occurred in December. SEAGO and NADO met on February 4, 2021 to finalize the project Scope of Work. Stakeholder interviews will begin in early May. The goal is to have the study completed in time for ADOT's FY22 FTA Section 5311 grant cycle that begins in January of next year.

SEAGO Internal Traffic Count Program: SEAGO has kicked-off this program. SEAGO receives approximately \$18,000 a year for HPMS activities. We have incorporated the internal traffic count program in our Work Program and are able to use those funds for local traffic counting. Traffic counts will only be conducted on local roads to support local agencies and fill ADOT counting gaps. Traffic counting has begun in Graham County. We have approximately 125 count sites identified. SEAGO will move to Santa Cruz County once completed in Graham County.

I will answer any questions you may have at the meeting.

Attachments: None.

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below



Central Arizona Governments Central Yavapai Metro. Planning Org. Lake Havasu Metro. Planning Org. MetroPlan Greater Flagstaff Northern Arizona Council of Gov'ts. Sierra Vista Metro. Planning Org. Southeastern AZ Governments Org. Sun Corridor Metro. Planning Org. Western Arizona Council of Gov'ts. Yuma Metropolitan Planning Org.

May 12, 2021

RTAC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

STATE LEGISLATURE/FUNDING: Monday marked the 120th day of session and work is winding down on regular session bills as the focus shifts more to the budget. In fact, the legislature recessed for much of the first half of the week so that leadership could devote more time to budget negotiations with the Governor. Tax cuts are a major leadership priority with a phased-in flattening of the individual income tax to 2.5% as the main piece. The impact on state funding and revenue sharing with counties and municipalities are complicating those discussions and the ability to secure adequate votes to pass both chambers.

Revenue numbers continue to be unprecedented. Through the end of March, state general fund revenue collections are 18.8% higher than the previous year and still 12.3% higher when excluding the money added from last year's later income tax filing deadline. This year's "skinny" budget minimized spending increases in large part to hedge against potential COVID-related revenue losses that did not materialize. The result will be a substantial carry-forward balance. In addition, the American Rescue Plan provided the state government with roughly \$12.2 billion in federal relief assistance, an amount actually higher than the state's \$11.8 billion operating budget. Also, the State still has a remaining balance from the CARES Act which it will have through the end of December to use.

Legislative leadership committed to setting aside \$200 million of the surplus revenue for infrastructure projects very early in the session. This was before some further improved forecasts and the enactment of this latest round of federal relief funding. The revenue outlook has continued to substantially improve and that initial number for infrastructure could rise. An updated list of the projects that were included in earlier bills this session is attached. Ultimately, any that are funded will be done so through their inclusion in the budget rather than through these bills which are no longer advancing as the budget drafting has begun. However, they still provide a good indication of the level of legislative support for directing more revenue to the infrastructure and also some of the specific projects that have support.

The American Rescue Plan also provided a substantial level of funding to local governments. Allocations to the states and locals were made available on Monday along with guidance on permissible uses from the U.S. Treasury:

<u>Interim Final Rule</u> <u>American Rescue Plan Fact Sheet</u> American Rescue Plan FAQ's

Despite the further guidance, much will still be subject to interpretation. Those complexities, as well as the one-time nature of this and some of the state's own generated revenue, will complicate the state's budget-setting process.

While water, sewer, and broadband are explicitly listed as permissible relief fund uses, transportation infrastructure is not. However, the funding can be used to backfill COVID-related revenue losses which could impact transportation. The relief funding should also provide a positive ripple effect that will indirectly impact transportation. The influx of revenue will greatly alleviate any pressure to raid highway funding to pay for other government programs. Also, transportation will not be competing with broadband for surplus general fund revenues as any broadband investment will most likely be paid for with the federal funding.

INFRASTRUCTURE REMAINS TOP FEDERAL PRIORITY: In Washington, the President hosted the Republican and Democrat leaders of the House and Senate at the White House earlier today to discuss infrastructure. It is clearly at the top of the Washington agenda. The President introduced a \$2.3T jobs plan on March 31st that extended well beyond what would be considered traditional infrastructure. Senate Republicans countered with a \$568B proposal that would be specifically limited to traditional infrastructure such as roads and sewers. The President and congressional Democrat leaders responded with an openness to divide the President's plan into separate packages and address the traditional infrastructure first and separate from the other provisions. While differences remain regarding funding priorities within transportation and how the plan would be paid for, there is bipartisan support to increase infrastructure investment at significant levels.

Current authorization for transportation programs is set to expire at the end of September. Reauthorization, which is typically done in five-year increments, will also likely increase permanent revenue streams for transportation investment in addition to this additional infrastructure package which would be more one-time in nature. The primary oversight committees have targeted drafting their parts of the authorization legislation by Memorial Day (which now appears to be slipping to early June) while congressional leadership is targeting July 4th for the infrastructure package. The two may merge depending on the degree of bipartisanship and consensus that can be reached.