





## NEBRASKA Legislature

## The Economic Recovery Grant Program Coordination Plan Omaha, NE



## olsson

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## Dear Fellow Senators:

In 2022, the Nebraska State Legislature passed the Economic Recovery Act (LB1024), which provided \$335 million in funding to assist North Omaha, South Omaha, and other communities that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Though the bill itself may just be words on paper, and the funding may just be dollars and cents, the Act represents so much more.

To North and South Omaha, the Economic Recovery Act is a commitment to communities and neighborhoods that have long been neglected and overlooked. The decision to appropriate funds received by the state under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)–and more importantly, state General Fund dollars–represents a historic investment in disadvantaged communities in Nebraska. For North and South Omaha, these state and federal dollars are truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to address the long-standing social and economic challenges that have persisted for generations.

Though a portion of funds under the Economic Recovery Act were appropriated for specific projects, the bulk of the funding under the act is allocated to the Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant Program, which is overseen by the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Nebraska Legislature. As required under LB1024, the legislature contracted with a company out of Omaha, Olsson, to develop a Coordination Plan for the use of these funds in North and South Omaha. The Olsson team brought together a wide variety of Nebraskabased and national architecture, engineering, consulting, and economic research firms that compose the Consulting Team, including the following:

- Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture (APMA),
- B2 Lab,
- · Canyon Research Southwest,
- Iconic Consulting Group, and
- Lamp Rynearson.

Since the passage of LB1024, the Economic Recovery Special Committee has worked together with the Olsson team to hold numerous stakeholder meetings, public information sessions, and one-on-one planning sessions with community leaders in North and South Omaha. This process, though slow and painstaking at times, was undertaken with a singular goal in mind-to ensure that dollars under the Economic Recovery Act were targeted to those proposals with the greatest likelihood of creating fundamental change in the North and South Omaha communities.

More than 365 individuals, public agencies, private companies, and non-profit organizations submitted potential ideas to the Special Committee for the use of Economic Recovery Act funds. The Olsson team utilized a triple-blind review system to evaluate each proposal for its alignment with federal and state requirements, its ability to create economic growth of consequence, and its influence on communityidentified needs. Each proposal was then separately evaluated by an outside firm to measure its economic impact on the community. These requests for economic development totaled more than three billion dollars. Although some requests were duplicative, we believe they demonstrate the high level of participation of the community in this process and the strong desire for change of its residents.

In the end, the goal of the Coordination Plan is to identify the proposals that are truly transformational and that will create long-lasting economic growth in North and South Omaha. The Coordination Plan also seeks to highlight potential opportunities for collaboration between proposals—either by geographic area or by industry— in order to create economies of scale and ensure that state and federal dollars are wisely spent. Hopefully, this Coordination Plan will not only guide the 108th Legislature in allocating funds to those proposals in North and South Omaha with the greatest potential, but also serve as a model for the economic recovery of other struggling communities in our state in the years to come.

Senator Justin Wayne State Senator, District 13 Chairperson, Economic Recovery Special Committee

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## **Goals of Economic Recovery Act**

The Economic Recovery Act, enacted with the passage of Legislative Bill 1024 (LB1024) by the Nebraska State Legislature in 2022, provides at least \$335 million in funding to assist North Omaha, South Omaha, and other communities that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Plan identifies key projects and proposals that align with the community's needs and the goals of LB1024. The Plan hopes to encourage innovative business growth and incentivize capital returns that can be reinvested into the community.

That said, the needs far outweigh the funding available. Private and philanthropic investment has been and will continue to be an important aspect of creating lasting change in Omaha. The goal of this Plan is to be a road map for future opportunities where each of these funding sources can work together to maximize the outcomes for the community.



THE GOAL of this funding is to foster desirable transformation, fundamental change, and long-lasting economic growth in the communities of North and South Omaha.



**TRANSFORMATIONAL:** a proposal that will help energize, recharge, or spur significant and favorable advancements in North and South Omaha's function or appearance.



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FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE: a proposal that will continue to elevate North and South Omaha's presence and perception within the region, significantly improving the lives of area residents through physical development.

**LONG-LASTING ECONOMIC GROWTH:** a proposal that will foster gainful employment opportunities and financial investment in the area, leading to the creation of generational wealth and widespread economic vitality in North and South Omaha.

This Coordination Plan has been developed based on a series of steps in order to determine the needs of North and South Omaha. The Plan will identify the proposals most in line with the goals of this funding and make recommendations for those to receive grant funding through LB1024.

## **Due Diligence and Understanding**

To understand the needs of North and South Omaha, the Project Team conducted a series of engagement activities to understand both existing conditions and lived experiences in the Qualified Census Tracts. Activities included the Inventory and Opportunity Memos, a Visioning Workshop with North and South Omaha Stakeholders, Public Hearings and Information Sessions, Technical Assistance opportunities, and Additional Outreach and Communications.

Inventory and Opportunity Memos were conducted to evaluate existing conditions from a data analysis and spatial perspective. The Project Team utilized existing data resources to evaluate and summarize the current state of North and South Omaha's land use, community resources, and redevelopment; transportation and connectivity; community health and natural environment; utility infrastructure; demographics, workforce, and housing; and real estate market.

A Visioning Workshop was conducted to understand the needs and desires of the North and South Omaha communities and hear from local stakeholders directly. The Project Team conducted a Visioning Workshop with community stakeholders during the week of August 15, 2022. The workshop was designed to solicit meaningful feedback from individuals who are invested in the success of the community, including business owners, faith-based organizations, service providers, real estate professionals, and government officials, among many others. More than 200 people attended the workshop sessions and the Project Team gained key insights into the needs, desires, and values of North and South Omaha.

Through stakeholder meetings, public engagement, and research from other regions, four key themes were identified as opportunities to support improved vibrancy and business ecosystems in North and South Omaha.

- **Human Capital and Job Creation:** Higher unemployment in North and South Omaha provides an opportunity for economic growth. The development of workforce education and leadership can provide for improved entrepreneurship, job creation, and generational wealth.
- **Infrastructure:** The qualified census tracts are in some of the oldest parts of the city. Aging infrastructure and underinvestment have led to the deterioration of existing assets and viable sites for development. Infrastructure improvements will support investments in new businesses, improved housing, and vibrant development.

- Access to Capital, Relationships, and Education: Creating an improved and vibrant business ecosystem in North and South Omaha will require support and access to capital. These items will allow for increased innovation, entrepreneurship, business expansion, and new business growth.
- **Culture:** North and South Omaha have distinct cultural heritages that each community identifies with. This Plan encourages the growth of cultural spaces and seeks to create opportunities for all generations to celebrate this history and leverage as part of the community's development.

**Public Hearings and Information Sessions** were conducted, including four joint public hearings / information sessions during the week of September 19, 2022, to provide general information about the project process and answer individual questions from attendees. Attendees were able to provide formal testimony to members of the Special Committee and share thoughts and concerns surrounding the allocation of funding in the Coordination Plan. More than 400 people attended the public sessions.

**Technical Assistance** was made available to grant applications in order to foster more equitable access to the LB1024 funding. The Project Team created a forum for the development of project ideas designed to assist potential applicants with some of the technical elements of their proposals to bolster their potential success. In addition to the in-person assistance offered at the information sessions, hourlong virtual sessions were made available to potential applicants. This assistance was provided by individuals equipped with knowledge of engineering, planning, architecture, and related technical fields at no cost to the potential applicants.

Additional Outreach and Communication tools were utilized in order to create transparency in the process and facilitate communication with the public. A project website, press releases, and email newsletters were used, as well as stakeholder meetings with Greater Omaha Chamber leadership and members from North and South Omaha, and the philanthropic community.

## **Proposal Evaluation Methodology**

The application methodology sought to create criteria that could identify viable proposals aligned with LB1024 program goals. Submitted proposals were evaluated using a rubric to provide an initial analysis of all 367 proposals. It was important to identify proposals that meet a range of criteria and address the goals behind LB1024, given the variety of projects and programs received. The intent was to make the evaluation process approachable to encourage submission and to identify and equitably compare any ideas for addressing the needs of North and South Omaha.

A framework for evaluation of submittals was developed that identified key elements for evaluating potential proposals for compliance with the LB1024 program and how they address goals for transformation, fundamental change, and long-lasting economic growth. The input received from stakeholders during the Visioning Workshop was integral to creating this framework.

The evaluation framework was built upon a range of criteria that explore key elements on which to build recommendations. These key elements were:

**COMPLIANCE** – Does the application meet the requirements of LB1024 and ARPA eligibility, and reporting requirements, including applicability to the funding, timing, and goals?

**CONSEQUENCE** – What are the benefits achieved by the proposal, including temporary and permanent job creation, economic impact, and ability to recycle the investment within North and South Omaha?

**Influence** – The ability of the proposal to positively influence the larger community by addressing identified needs or supporting secondary actions, including future phases, entrepreneurship, adjacent projects, or creation of new partnerships.



The Project Team developed a corresponding Evaluation Rubric, provided in the body of this document, by which the team of reviewers evaluated each proposal.

An Economic Outputs Analysis was also conducted for each proposal. This analysis was one of the many considerations as part of the proposal evaluation process, providing an indication of the anticipated economic and market impacts of each proposal, and informing the strategic evaluation of proposals in line with the identified goals of the funding.

## **Proposal Evaluation**

There were 367 proposals submitted for grant funding. Each proposal was reviewed by the Project Team in accordance with the established criteria in order to assess each proposal's alignment with the established LB1024 goals and funding eligibility.

Each of the proposals was given a unique ID number and then evaluated through the Proposal Evaluation process and the Economic Output Analysis process as explained in the Methodology for Application and Evaluation section above and given a subsequent Harvey Ball Rating and Economic Score.



**Project Location** 

## **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$\$**

## **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

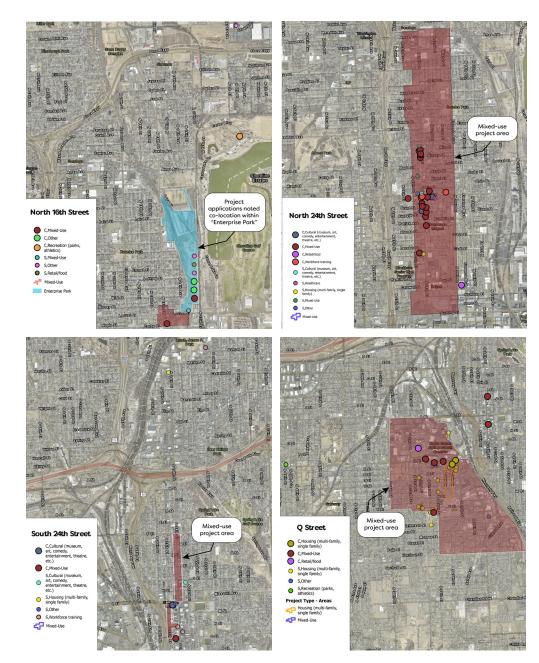
COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE	INFLUENCE	
	Jobs Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 CONSEQUENCE CONSEQUENCE	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE

## **Opportunities for Collaboration**

In reviewing the proposals, the Project Team identified opportunities for collaboration as shown in the body of the Plan. The proposed collaborations work to build holistic development by attempting to bring together economic opportunity, increased housing options, public space improvements, and communitybased services. The funding from LB1024 is the lead catalyst for the much-needed economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The collaborations offer pathways for additional partnerships between philanthropy and public investments.

Once proposals were mapped out, clear areas of focus emerged with numerous projects concentrated in the areas noted on the following pages. These areas presented the greatest opportunities for collaboration. These Geographic Areas of Focus were North 16th Street; North 24th Street; South 24th Street; and the Q Street corridor. Quality projects located within these areas of geographic focus were also identified in the Plan, in addition to a group of smaller proposals that can be implemented quickly and support the overall goals of LB1024.

During the evaluation, the Project Team reviewed and considered each proposal individually. They used a secondary spatial evaluation to gain additional insights on complementary or potentially collaborative proposals within specific geographies to help create mutually supportive and sustainable outcomes. For each of these geographic focus areas, the team identified specific projects that may catalyze secondary or ongoing investments. These catalyst projects scored exceptionally high in the defined metrics regarding economic impact and/or overall dynamic index. They also exhibited transformational qualities due to scope or breadth of impact. They stood out as most likely to attract secondary actions or projects to enhance the total outcome of the initial investment.



Full recommendations are provided in the Opportunities for Collaboration section of the document.

## **Summary and Next Steps**

The recommendations provided in this Coordination Plan are designed to inform the LB1024 funding decisions to be made by the Special Committee. Evaluation results are meant to serve as a tool for the Special Committee to guide grant LB1024 funding allocations. The Special Committee maintains final discretion on ultimate LB1024 funding allocation decisions.

With the establishment of this Coordination Plan, the Special Committee will utilize the recommendations herein to guide grant funding allocation decisions. In early 2023, an additional legislative bill will be drafted and passed, allocating funding to selected proposals.

After selected proposals are identified through the new bill, funding will be allocated to selected proposals, and proposal/ project activities will proceed. All funding must be expended by July 2026, with project closeout by December 2026.

With the implementation of Economic Recovery Act funding, the North and South Omaha communities will experience transformation, fundamental change, and long-lasting economic growth.

For more information about the Omaha Economic Recovery Project and to keep up with updates, visit the website at www.omahaeconomicrecovery.com.

## THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT BILL Olson

## Legislative Bill 1024

The Economic Recovery Act, enacted with the passage of Legislative Bill 1024 (LB1024) by the Nebraska State Legislature in 2022, provides at least \$335 million in funding to assist North and South Omaha. State and federal funding under the Economic Recovery Act represents a historic investment in disadvantaged communities in Nebraska and other communities that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Act includes \$250 million in federal ARPA funds, \$55 million from the Cash Reserve Fund, and \$30 million from the General Fund (\$10 million each from fiscal years 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025).

The bulk of funding in LB1024 is designated for the Qualified Census Tract (QCTs) Recovery Grant Program. Grants under the QCT Recovery Grant Program can be used for any eligible purposes under ARPA. The goal of the QCT Recovery Grant Program is to foster desirable **transformation**, **fundamental change**, **and long-lasting economic growth** in the communities of North and South Omaha. Note the following details related to QCT Recovery Grant Program Funding breakdown:

- Includes some funding for QCTs outside of North and South Omaha;
  - Not to exceed \$10 million for QCTs in Lincoln
  - Not to exceed \$10 million for QCTs outside of Omaha or Lincoln
- All remaining funds are allocated for grants in QCTs in Omaha;
  - Minimum of \$35 million for QCTs in South Omaha
  - Minimum of \$55 million for QCTs in North Omaha
  - Any funds not applied for may be allocated to eligible grantees in any QCT in Omaha

*Figure 1* indicates the location of North and South Omaha's Qualified Census Tracts. These QCTs are areas in which LB1024 will focus funding with the intention of creating sweeping economic growth through eligible uses such as investment in employment, job creation, small business assistance, entrepreneurship, and housing.

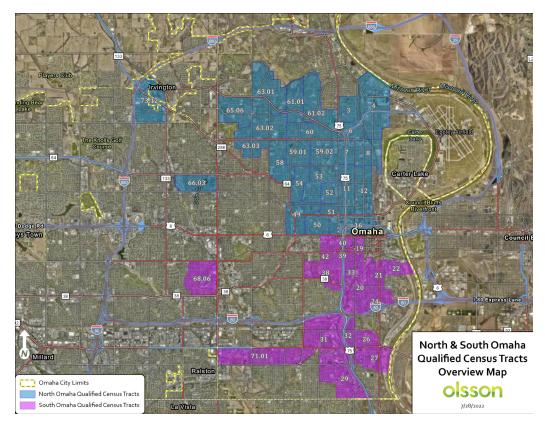


Figure 1: LB1024 Qualified Census Tracts

LB1024 funding for non-QCT Recovery Grant Programs, including various programs and projects, are specifically listed in LB1024, including the following:

- Up to \$60 million for the Airport Business Park II project
- Up to \$30 million for Innovation Hubs (iHubs) in North Omaha
- Up to \$3 million for internships and crime prevention programs administered by the City of Omaha
- Up to \$5 million to the Nebraska Film Office for production of a film on Chief Standing Bear, a portion of which will be filmed in North Omaha
- Up to \$5 million to the Lancaster Event Center
- Up to \$1 million for financial literacy programs for individuals residing in North and South Omaha

Additional information about the specifics of the Bill can be found on the Nebraska State Legislature website.

https://nebraskalegislature.gov/ FloorDocs/107/PDF/Slip/LB1024.pdf

## The Goal of the Economic Recovery Act

The goal of this funding is to foster desirable transformation, fundamental change, and longlasting economic growth in the communities of North and South Omaha.



**Transformational:** a proposal that will help energize, recharge, or spur significant and favorable advancements in North or South Omaha's function or appearance



**Fundamental Change:** a proposal that will continue to elevate North and South Omaha's presence and perception within the region, significantly improving the lives of area residents through physical development



Long-Lasting Economic Growth: a proposal that will foster gainful employment opportunities and financial investment in the area, leading to the creation of generational wealth and widespread economic vitality in North and South Omaha

To strategically allocate these funds, the Project Team developed The Economic Recovery Grant Program Coordination Plan (Plan) based on a series of steps—including stakeholder and public engagement to determine the needs of North and South Omaha. This Plan identifies the proposals most in line with the goals of this funding and makes recommendations for those proposals that if implanted will create economic vitality experienced by the identified QCTs.

## **ARPA Eligibility Requirements**

ARPA, signed into law March 2021, included emergency funding provided to state and local governments. The U.S. Department of the Treasury published a Final Rule document in April 2022 to provide guidance on how those ARPA funds may be used. Per the Final Rule, funds may be used to accomplish the following:

- **Replace lost public sector revenue**, using this funding to provide government services up to the amount of revenue loss due to the pandemic.
- **Support the COVID-19 public health and economic response** by addressing COVID-19 and its impact on public health, as well as addressing economic harm to households, small businesses, non-profits, impacted industries, and the public sector.
- **Provide premium pay for eligible workers performing essential work,** offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical sectors.
- Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, to support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand affordable access to broadband internet.

This process, as outlined in this document and on the project website, is the fulfillment of the requirement to develop a coordination plan, grant application, and proposal screening process.

To learn more about ARPA and the Final Rule, follow the provided links to the U.S Department of the Treasury website for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds information page and the Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Overview of the Final Rule document.

https://home.treasury.gov/ policy-issues/coronavirus/ assistance-for-state-local-andtribal-governments/state-andlocal-fiscal-recovery-funds

https://home.treasury.gov/ system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule-Overview.pdf

## **Timeline of Project**

In advance of this final Coordination Plan, the Project Team completed the following steps:

- 1. **Compiled inventory and opportunities memos** for both North and South Omaha that assessed the existing conditions of both communities, working to understand the current state of both communities, which can be found in **Appendix C** and **Appendix D respectively**.
- 2. Conducted a **visioning workshop** with key stakeholders to better understand the needs of both North and South Omaha. The summary deliverable from the workshop can be found in **Appendix A**.
- 3. Conducted a series of **public hearings/information sessions**. The deliverable from the public hearings/information sessions can be found in **Appendix B**.
- 4. Developed proposal **evaluation criteria** to create a transparent and clear system to evaluate grant funding proposals' ability to spur transformational economic growth and suit community needs. Criteria are defined and explained in the Methodology for Proposal Application and Evaluation section below.
- 5. Accepted **proposals for the grant funding**, all of which can be found in **Appendix G** and **Appendix H**.
- 6. Reviewed and **evaluated proposals** based on the developed evaluation criteria.
- 7. Developed a set of **recommendations for grant funding**, identifying opportunities for effective use of the funds.



## Figure 2: Project Timeline

*Figure 2* displays the project timeline up through the creation of this Plan. The Coordination Plan will be reviewed by the Nebraska State Legislature during the 2023 session starting January 4, 2023. The Nebraska State Legislature will then craft a bill to allocate funding to proposals. The bill will go through the normal committee process and full floor process for approvals. Once approved, it is anticipated that dollars will be distributed late summer of 2023.

## **The Project Team**

LB1024 created the Economic Recovery Special Committee (or "Special Committee"), comprised of the following senators:

## Chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee, who serves as Chair

• Senator Justin Wayne, LD 13 (Omaha)

## Speaker of the Legislature

• Senator Mike Hilgers, LD 21 (Lincoln)

## Chairperson of the Appropriations Committee or their designee

• Senator Anna Wishart, LD 27 (Lincoln)

## Four members whose districts contain qualified census tracts in Omaha

- Senator Terrell McKinney, LD 11 (Omaha)
- Senator Tony Vargas, LD 7 (Omaha)
- Senator Mike McDonnell, LD 5 (Omaha)
- Senator Brett Lindstrom, LD 18 (Omaha)

The Nebraska State Legislature created the Request for Proposals from which a Consultant Team was selected to advise the Special Committee, conduct program management, facilitate community engagement, and conduct project development activities. **The Consultant Team is comprised of the following firms:** 

- Olsson (Prime Consultant)
- Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture
- B2 Lab
- Canyon Research Southwest
- Lamp Rynearson
- Iconic Consulting Group



## DUE DILIGENCE AND UNDERSTANDING olson°

## Understanding

To understand the needs of North and South Omaha, the Project Team conducted a series of engagement activities to understand both existing conditions and lived experiences in the QCTs. Initial existing conditions analysis was completed via an inventory and opportunities exercise; a visioning workshop was then held with area stakeholders to verify the inventory and opportunities findings and shared lived experiences; and four public hearings/information sessions were held to provide ample information to the public about the project, evaluation criteria, and application process.

## Inventory and Opportunity Memos

To evaluate existing conditions from a data analysis and spatial perspective, the Project Team used existing data resources to evaluate and summarize the current state of North and South Omaha's land use, community resources, and redevelopment; transportation and connectivity; community health and natural environment; utility infrastructure; demographics, workforce, and housing; and real estate market.<sup>2</sup> These memos evaluated each of these critical topics to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) present in North and South Omaha, and present the findings for future discussion of economic investment in each community. To view the full memos, refer to **Appendix C** and **Appendix D**.

*Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6* represent some of the findings from the Inventory and Opportunity Memos, including existing land use and the existing environmental health index for North and South Omaha.

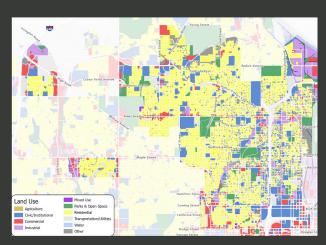
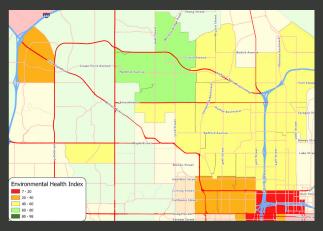


Figure 3: Existing Land Use in North Omaha





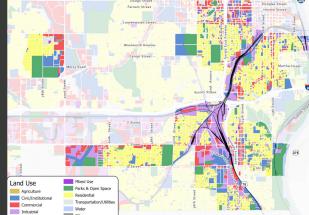


Figure 4: Existing Land Use in South Omaha

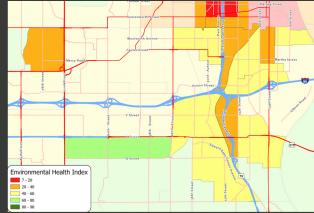


Figure 6: Environmental Health Index for South Omaha

Footnote <sup>2</sup>: The University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO) Center for Public Affairs Research was consulted for data serving and analysis.

## **Visioning Workshop**

To understand the needs and desires of the North and South Omaha communities and hear from local stakeholders directly, the Project Team conducted a visioning workshop during the week of August 15, 2022. The workshop was designed to solicit meaningful feedback from individuals vested in the success of the community, including business owners, faith-based organizations, service providers, real estate professionals, and government officials, among many others. More than 200 people attended the workshop sessions.

The workshop was held over the course of two days and consisted of four sessions, two in North Omaha and two in South Omaha, focused on North Omaha and South Omaha respectively. Each of the sessions used the same structure and included the same exercises facilitated by the Project Team.

Each workshop session included the following components:

- Welcome from the Project Team
- Message from the state senators
- Presentation of existing conditions findings from the Project Team
- Stakeholder strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats exercise and prioritization
- Stakeholder community needs exercise
- Stakeholder idea brainstorming and discussion
- Closing and next steps

The structure of the workshop was designed to engage stakeholders throughout the process in a stair-step approach by first introducing what the data says about the community, then asking participants to assess the community in its current state, evaluate the community's needs, then begin brainstorming ideas for the future of the community. This approach was reflected in the agenda of the four sessions and in the findings from the workshop. The details and findings of each session of the workshop are identified in **Appendix A**. To wrap up the visioning workshop, a public listening session to the Special Committee was held to present the key takeaways from the SWOT analysis and needs exercises, and a summary of the findings from the workshop. The details of the public listening session are identified in **Appendix A**.



## **Public Hearings and Information Sessions**

In addition to stakeholder engagement through the visioning workshop, the Project Team conducted four joint public hearings/ information sessions during the week of September 19, 2022. More than 400 people attended the public sessions.

The public hearings/information sessions were held during a fourday period, consisting of one session held each day. Two sessions were held in South Omaha and two sessions were held in North Omaha; both area sessions offered daytime and evening hours for participants to attend. At each session, participants were able to learn about the project, ask questions of the Project Team, and provide formal testimony to members of the Special Committee. Each session used a similar format and layout of information.

The first area contained the information session portion that was hosted in an open house format with posters staffed by Project Team members. The goal of this area was to provide general information about the project and process and answer individual questions from attendees. The information session area included:

- Welcome and check in,
- Overview of the Economic Recovery Act grant program,
- Recap of the visioning workshop findings,
- Overview of the grant funding proposal screening criteria and submission process, and
- A public comment opportunity.

In the second area, engineers, architects and planners from the Project Team and City of Omaha staff members hosted informal discussions with attendees who wanted feedback and additional information about the technical aspects of their proposals.

In the third area, attendees were able to provide formal testimony to members of the Special Committee. Those providing testimony spoke about how they felt the Special Committee should allocate the funding in the Plan.

Details for each public hearing/information session and findings from the sessions can be found in **Appendix B**.



## **Technical Assistance**

To foster more equitable access to the LB1024 funding, the Project Team created a forum for the development of proposal ideas designed to assist potential applicants with some of the technical elements of their proposals to bolster their potential success. In addition to the in-person assistance offered at the information sessions, hour-long virtual sessions were made available to applicants on September 30, and October 3-7, 2022. This assistance was provided by individuals equipped with knowledge of engineering, planning, architecture, and related technical fields at no cost to the applicants.

Details about the technical assistance are in **Appendix B**.



## Additional Outreach and Communication

Additional outreach and communication efforts were conducted by the Project Team to ensure widespread awareness of the project, proposal process, and engagement opportunities. Such efforts are detailed in **Appendix B** and include:

- Stakeholder meetings with Greater Omaha Chamber leadership and members from North and South Omaha, and the philanthropic community
- Email newsletters
- Press releases
- Regularly maintained project website

## METHODOLOGY FOR PROPOSAL APPLICATION AND EVALUATION

## **Application Process**

The proposal application methodology sought to create criteria that would identify viable proposals aligned with ARPA requirements and LB1024 program goals. The application also needed to provide enough information for the evaluation team to understand each proposal's goals, impact on the community, return on investment, and viability to determine recommendations. The broad audience for proposal sponsors also required an approachable process that would transparently link submittals, criteria, and resulting recommendations.



## Figure 7: Application Process Audiences

Throughout all public outreach activities, participants

and the public at large were encouraged to submit proposals for grant funding that would meet the project goals and the identified needs of North and South Omaha. The process for developing and submitting proposals along with the proposal evaluation criteria was provided on the project website. The web-based proposal application was provided in pdf format in English and Spanish to assist applicants in preparing their applications. The online application form was open from September 19-October 9. The Project Team received 367 proposals for funding.

## **Application Evaluation Methodology**

Submitted proposals were evaluated using a rubric developed by the Project Team to provide an initial analysis of all 367 proposals. It was important to identify proposals that meet a range of criteria and address the goals behind LB1024, considering the variety of proposals received. The intent was to make the evaluation process approachable to encourage submission and to identify and equitably compare ideas for addressing the needs of North and South Omaha. Therefore, the process had to be flexible enough to consider a wide range of potential proposals and varying levels of sophistication or completeness in the proposals received.

It was critical that the evaluation criteria and process provided a consistent mechanism for communicating the basis for recommendations. The evaluation criteria and process attempted to communicate clearly and transparently to various audiences, including the evaluation team, elected leaders, applicants, and the public. *Figure 7* demonstrates the interrelationships within this process.

## **EVALUATION FRAMEWORK**

A framework for evaluating submittals was developed to identify key elements for assessing potential proposals for compliance with LB1024 and how they address goals for transformation, fundamental change, and long-lasting economic growth. The input received from stakeholders during the visioning workshop was integral to creating this framework.

The elements of the framework addressed the needs for evaluation and communication of the process and recommendations, while retaining the flexibility needed to consider a wide range of proposals and various levels of information provided in the applications submitted.

## **KEY ELEMENTS**

the evaluation

framework

of multiple

criteria. These

criteria were

to construct

an associated

The evaluation

key element

are shown in

Figure 8.

consisted

The evaluation framework was built on a range of criteria that explored the following key elements on which to build recommendations. These key elements were:

**COMPLIANCE** – Does the application meet the requirements of LB1024 and ARPA eligibility, and reporting requirements including applicability to the funding, timing, and goals?

**CONSEQUENCE** – What are the benefits achieved by the proposal, including temporary and permanent job creation, economic impact, and ability to recycle the investment within North and South Omaha?

**INFLUENCE** – What is the ability of the proposal to positively influence the larger community by addressing identified needs or supporting secondary actions, including future phases, entrepreneurship, adjacent projects, or creation of new partnerships?

Figure 8: Proposal Fach element of **Evaluation Framework** Applicability to the funding Implementation timina Qualified census tract Proposal viability the pieces used **EVALUATION CRITERIA** rubric guidance. CONSEQUENCE INFLUENCE Overall & targeted benefit
Alignment with goals of LB1024 criteria for each oposal scaling, replication future expansi partnerships

## PROPOSAL EVALUATION RUBRIC

The resulting evaluation rubric, as shown in *Table 1*, was developed and applied to each of the 367 proposals.

## Table 1. Proposal Evaluation Rubric

Proposal Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Considerations									
	COMPLIAN	CE									
Applicability to the funding	Is the proposal appropriate for LB1024 and ARPA requirements for types of investments?	Funding eligible proposal									
Implementation timing	Can the proposal funds be obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026?	Design, permitting requirements and approvals									
Qualified census tract	Is the proposal in or adjacent to the QCT?	Qualified Census Tract Location or location- agnostic proposal applied within QCT area									
Proposal viability	What is the overall proposal readiness and likelihood of success?	Proposal team, level of completed planning and development, and site control									
CONSEQUENCE											
Job creation	Does the proposal create impactful new jobs?	Number of jobs created and whether the number of jobs makes sense within the application									
Overall economic benefit	What is the overall economic and community benefit?	Scale of project, longevity of benefits									
Targeted economic benefit	Does the proposal attract and/or keep investment within the community?	Creating places, attractions that attract outside money, dollars stay or are recycled within the community									
Alignment with goals of LB1024	Does the proposal create transformational, long- lasting, and fundamental positive change?	Qualitative overall assessment									
	INFLUENC	E									
Alignment with identified needs	Does the proposal align with community-identified needs?	Top needs in each community, and number of needs met									
Proposal scaling, replication, or future expansion	Can the proposal be scaled, replicated, or have future phases?	Whether a bigger proposal would bring more benefit, capability of using the proposal in other locations									
Catalyst for secondary investment	Will the proposal attract other investments?	Possible proof-of-concept aspect to the proposal that would earn future funding from other sources, possibility that the proposal earns additional funding from other programs or sources that can be pooled									
Support for adjacent proposals/ creating new partnerships	Does the proposal create new connections within or between communities?	Physical barriers, perception barriers, benefit to multiple groups and neighborhoods, proposal's ability to make new connections/collaborations									

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## **EVALUATION REPRESENTATION**

Each proposal was reviewed three separate times by the team of reviewers. This redundancy review allowed for proposal evaluations to be robust and include different perspectives. The outcomes from those reviews were compiled and result in a single evaluation per proposal per criteria. This evaluation is depicted by a three-tiered Harvey Ball result shown in *Figure 9*.



Figure 9: Proposal Evaluation Key



## ECONOMIC OUTPUTS ANALYSIS

An Economic Outputs Analysis was also conducted for each proposal. This analysis was one of the many considerations that were part of the proposal evaluation process; it provides an indication of the anticipated economic and market impacts of each proposal and informs the strategic evaluation of proposals in line with the identified goals of the funding.

The direct and indirect economic impacts for each proposal that were measured are as shown in *Table 2*.

## Table 2. Direct and Indirect Economic Impacts by Proposal

Economic Impact Measurement	Percent of Total
CONSTRUCTION PHASE	10%
OPERATIONAL PHASE	
Total Output	20%
Jobs/Employment	20%
Payroll/Wages	20%
State Income Taxes	5%
Leveraging of Additional Project Investment	25%
Total	100%

A scoring system of 0 to 5 was applied to each economic benefit measured, with zero having no benefit and five having the greatest benefit. The score for each measured economic benefit was then applied to a weighted ranking system to arrive at a single score for each proposal. To view the full economic output report from this analysis, view **Appendix F**.

## PROPOSAL EVALUATIONS olson°

## Overview

There were 367 proposals submitted for grant funding. Each proposal was reviewed by the Project Team in accordance with the established criteria to assess each proposal's alignment with the established LB1024 goals and funding eligibility.

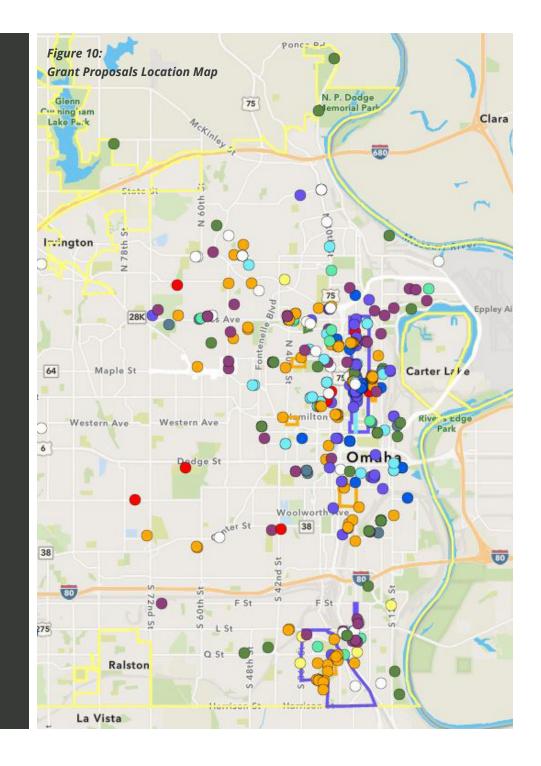
The raw materials from all proposals are included in **Appendix H**, and half-page summaries of each proposal are included in **Appendix G**, for reference. *Figure 10* displays the proposed locations of the submitted proposals. For more information, follow the link below to the Project Proposal Web Map.

## https://olsson.maps.arcgis.com

## **Submitted Proposals and Evaluations**

Each of the proposals was given a unique identification number and then evaluated through the proposal evaluation process and the economic output analysis process as explained in the previous section and given a subsequent Harvey Ball rating and economic score. Proposal summaries include basic proposal information; these proposal evaluations can be found in **Appendix G** and the original submission materials from all proposals are included in **Appendix H**. For more information about the proposal evaluation methodology, reference the previous Methodology for Application and Evaluation section.

The Special Committee will draft a bill in the 2023 Legislative Session that will identify specific proposals for funding as well as the funding levels per proposal. The evaluations identified in this Coordination Plan will be used as a tool by the Special Committee members to inform their development of the bill.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION Olson

When reviewing the proposals, the Project Team identified several proposals that overlapped or complemented each other. Some of the alignment came simply through proximity, while others clearly catered to a shared audience or partner organizations. While each proposal has merits on its own, these suggested alignments provide opportunities for creating and streamlining efficiencies that will minimize redundancies and maximize available dollars and resources. The proposed collaborations work to build holistic development by attempting to join economic opportunity, increased housing options, public space improvements, and community-based services. The funding from LB1024 is the lead catalyst for the much-needed economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The collaborations offer pathways for additional partnership potential between the business community, philanthropy and public investments.

LB1024 seeks to create fundamental, long-lasting, and transformational change for communities and neighborhoods, so bringing together those who wish to help, amplifying the transformational impact, is a natural step.

## **Geographic Areas of Focus**

Once proposals were mapped, clear geographic areas of focus emerged, with numerous proposals concentrated in the areas noted on the following pages. These areas presented the greatest opportunities for collaboration based on the large number of submissions. The geographic areas of focus build upon the work and vision of grassroots leaders and public officials.

## NORTH OMAHA GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF FOCUS

The **North 16th Street corridor**, as detailed in **Table 3**, provides an opportunity for commercial and industrial development that will create economic opportunity for residents in North Omaha. Its access to downtown Omaha and truck routes positions the North 16th Street corridor as a driver of economic growth. The area has land that is shovel-ready to attract businesses in manufacturing and advanced technology.

Furthermore, this area will be anchored by the Sankofa Innovation District with a handful of supporting capital projects and programs adjacent to and within it. Nationally, innovation districts have proven to be instrumental in spurring vibrant/sustainable economic development in otherwise underinvested areas. When implemented effectively, they foster connections amongst the business community, investors, and entrepreneurs to create generational wealth. They

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also provide employment and educational opportunities for the surrounding community. Other cities that have or are implementing this concept well include Atlanta, Raleigh-Durham, Kansas City, and Austin, to name a few.

The **North 24th Street corridor**, as detailed in **Table 4**, is the cultural and creative hub of North Omaha. With historic significance and proximity to downtown Omaha, North 24th Street attracts visitors who may be in Omaha for an event as well as visitors from the greater Omaha metropolitan area. Economic development based on tourism, arts, and culture will be vital for the continued revitalization of this corridor. Streetscape improvements will shift perceptions of North 24th Street, attract additional investment and increase pedestrian and multimodal mobility throughout the area.

When seen together, the North 16th and 24th streets proposals represent economic, cultural, and quality of life impact all within a proximity that is accessible to the residents of North Omaha.

## SOUTH OMAHA GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF FOCUS

The **South 24th Street and Q Street area** is the focus of communitybased development for South Omaha. Due to infrastructure such as rail, bridges, and Highway 75, the South Omaha area is fragmented. Opportunities exist to support existing cultural diversity, small business growth, and community education and redevelopment.

The **South 24th Street area**, as shown in **Table 5**, represents one of the most culturally diverse areas in the state of Nebraska. The collaborations, entrepreneurship and small business growth that has been seen in the last 15 years along the South 24th Street corridor is an example for others in the Omaha community. The opportunity of this corridor includes investment in further cultural celebration, expansion opportunities for small businesses, and growth of entrepreneurship.

The **Q Street corridor**, as detailed in **Table 6**, represents a unique opportunity to combine a spectrum of housing, educational, community programming, and business resources to create a vibrant collaborative growth engine. Metropolitan Community College's South Omaha campus and the existing businesses located on the Q Street corridor will serve as a basis for the community to create dynamic opportunities for residents of the immediate QCT area and Omaha as a whole. The educational and business opportunities will also support the existing community redevelopment being completed in the Southside Terrace area.

## PROPOSALS OUTSIDE OF GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF FOCUS

Additionally, **Table 7** includes a list of proposals that scored well, but do not fall into the geographic areas of focus.

## SMALL/QUICK WINS

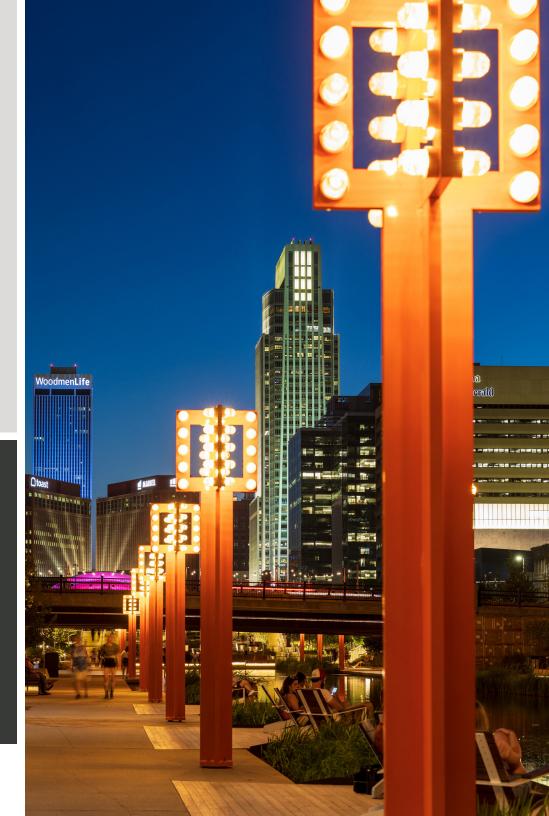
Lastly, **Table 8** includes a list of proposals that equal less than a \$1 million grant that scored well and will have large impact.

When reviewing the tables on the following pages, please note that:

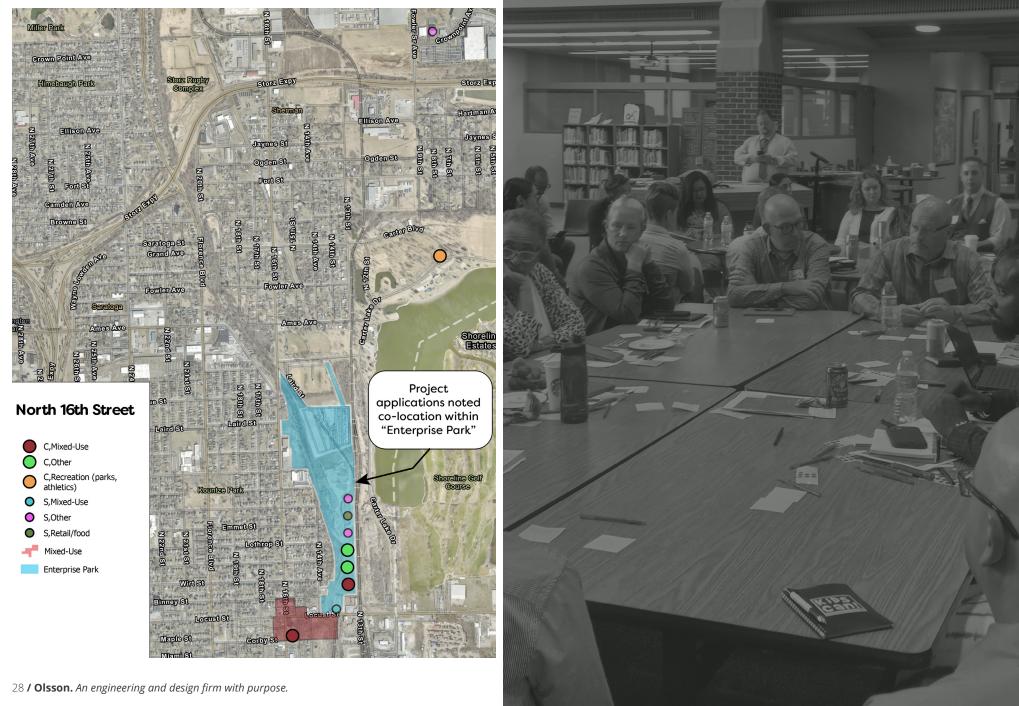
- Those in the green are "catalyst" proposals that scored well in the Proposal Evaluation process and/or the Economic Evaluation process. Based on the submissions, they seem positioned to make a transformational impact. Catalyst proposals have been provided a recommended funding amount based upon their proposal evaluation and economic evaluations.
- Those in the orange are "supplemental" proposals. The impacts they will make may be smaller in scale and more narrowed in focus, but they still meet important needs. Aligning them with catalyst proposals could streamline and accentuate their impact.

What is a Catalyst Project?

During the evaluation, the Project Team reviewed and considered each proposal individually. They used a secondary spatial evaluation to gain additional insights on complementary or potentially collaborative proposals within specific geographies to help create mutually supportive and sustainable outcomes. For each of these focus areas, the team identified specific projects that may catalyze secondary or ongoing investments. These catalyst projects scored exceptionally high in the defined metrics regarding economic impact and/or overall dynamic index. They also exhibited transformational qualities due to scope or breadth of impact. They stood out as most likely to attract secondary actions or projects to enhance the total outcome of the initial investment.



## Figure 12. North 16th Street Geographic Area of Focus Map



## TABLE 3. North 16th Street Geographic Area of Focus

ID #	ORGANIZATION	TITLE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	GRANT REQUEST	RECOMMENDED FUNDING
39	City of Omaha	Levi Carter Activity Center and Sports Park	\$32,600,080.00	\$32,600,080.00	\$13,000,000.00
143	Creighton University	Innovation & Entrepreneurship Service Center	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
255	Sankofa Innovation District	Enterprise Park (PEI Manufacturing, Modern Eminence, Truck Route, Enterprise Business Park)	\$457,726,000.00	\$138,992,312.00	\$40,000,000.00
271	Locust Street Development	Locust Street Development	\$35,353,853.00	\$10,606,156.00	\$10,606,156.00
336	Omaha 100, Inc	Omaha 100 Business Grant	\$10,675,000.00	\$10,675,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
23	Value Innovation Technologies Corp	Omaha Digital Marketplace	\$6,500,000.00	\$5,500,000.00	\$0
82	Hayes & Associates, LLC	Financial Education, Counseling, Consulting and Wrap Around services for Small Businesses and Grant Expenditure Review on behalf of Sankofa IHUB	\$8,500,000.00	\$8,500,000.00	\$0
166	Omaha Development Foundation (Greater Omaha Chamber)	North Omaha Business Park Development	\$155,626,500.00	\$47,201,300.00	\$0
245	Bison Equities, LLC DBA Bison	Flex Facility in North Omaha	\$20,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$0
248	Sankofa Capital	Sankofa Capital	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$0
292	Empowering Kids Academy	Bringing High Quality Childcare To Our Community	\$2,600,000.00	\$2,600,000.00	\$0
345	1st Sky Omaha LLC	1st Sky Omaha Expansion	\$3,949,900.00	\$1,844,300.00	\$0
Total			\$753,531,333.00	\$288,519,148.00	\$67,606,156.00

Catalyst Proposals

Supplemental Proposals



Levi Carter Park - 4405 Carter Lake Shore Dr W, Omaha, NE 68110. This is an open parcel located in the northwest corner of the park. There is a road leading to this location as well as an additional maintenance facility already serving the park.

The location is immediately adjacent to the Northeast Omaha QCT cluster.

### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$32,600,080**

## **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

U The City of Omaha proposes to construct a 90,000 square foot multi-purpose facility with eight (8) basketball/volleyball courts, a wrestling room, a weight training/fitness room, locker rooms, health screening space, and a dedicated technology-enabled classroom. Adjacent to the indoor facility, the City proposes construction of four (4) full-size natural turf soccer fields, a building for concessions and restrooms, and 340 surface parking stalls.

The requested funding will allow the City of Omaha to execute this critical capital project, a first of its kind in the Omaha Metro, which directly enables work, education, and health monitoring in response to the public health emergency.

The City of Omaha elected to situate this project on an undeveloped parcel directly adjacent to the Northeast Omaha QCT cluster to ensure all communities have access to the high-quality modern infrastructure needed to access critical services and thrive both socially and economically.

The selected site will become a regional destination, generating development and economic growth in a community with great need. Northeast Omaha has experienced disproportionately poor work, education, and health outcomes, in part due to lack of access to equitable resources and opportunities. The Carter Lake facility will quite literally level the playing field. The proposed project will jointly and directly enable work, education, and health monitoring while serving as a hub for community recreational activities. This project serves as a catalyst for significant growth, neighborhood revitalization, and economic development.

## **#143** INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP SERVICE CENTER

Creighton University would designate space at its currently owned and operated property identified as the Cardiac Center at 3006 Webster St., Omaha, NE 68131 which is located in Track 51 of the Qualified Census Tracks. The building is a 65,000 GSF facility and currently scheduled to be primarily vacated by summer 2023. It contains large and small classrooms, collaboration rooms, conference rooms and offices. The current floor plans are attached.

### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,000,000**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Innovation & Entrepreneurship Service Center (IESC) is one of four proposals being submitted by Creighton University. The four innovative and thoughtful projects collectively have the potential to be transformative, lead generational change, and have long-lasting economic growth. IESC will include a full-service legal clinic (IEL Clinic) and select programming for business and technology and is intended to support and be a part of the iHub proposal submitted by SanKoFa Economic Development Corporation through academic and educational programming that would enhance and support wraparound services provided by SanKoFa and its other partners. This initiative is positioned to have a lasting impact on the Omaha community.

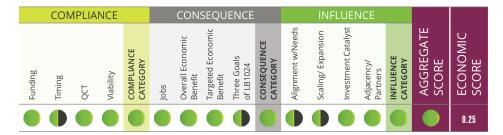
IESC would provide new individual entrepreneurs, small businesses, nonprofit and community organizations with opportunities to learn and develop a broader understanding of fundamental business and technology practices, and more advanced financial technology, providing wrap around services to support entrepreneurs from idea to execution. The program could start June 2023.

The Legal Clinic would be a critical part of the IESC and would provide legal and transactional (nonlitigation) assistance for new and developing businesses. These services would help facilitate entity formation, wealth protection, risk management, tax planning, intellectual property registration, and other critical elements of running a profitable and sustainable business that will support and enhance the community it serves. IESC and the Legal Clinic would be housed in North Omaha, both on Creighton's Campus and in the innovation hub space that would be available. The Legal Clinic would plan to begin supporting clients in June 2023, with the first group of law students in August 2023.

The IESC could also support student entrepreneurs seeking to develop businesses in North and South Omaha. These students could be from identified local high schools, as well as Creighton University, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Metropolitan Community College, and other institutions.

The IESC would provide support to the potential clients discussed above, as well as serve as a teacher-trainer model educating law students from Creighton University School of Law, helping clients seeking to grow businesses in the community and provide important experiential learning opportunities for students from the Heider College of Business.

COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE	INFLUENCE	
Funding Timing QCT Viability COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 <b>CONSEQUENCE</b> CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners <b>INFLUENCE</b>	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			1.03





Sankofa will start in two temporary locations (24th and Burdette and 16th and Commerce) to immediately start training those for the future jobs coming. The final location will be at Enterprise Park. All of these opportunities will be within Qualified Census Tracts and serving those from Qualified Census Tracts.

### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$138,992,312**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

More than just "a building" or "a campus" the Sankofa Innovation District ("Sankofa") will be the mecca of entrepreneurship and innovation (E&I) in the Midwest. Located at16th and Locust, the concept of Sankofa is a 100-acre innovation district in Omaha, NE that will be anchored by the Cathy Hughes Innovation Center. At Sankofa, we're building and championing a place and an idea that, hundreds of years from now, history will celebrate as changing the world and forever improving human conditions both in North Omaha and around the world.

Sankofa is the culmination of a decade of careful planning, painstaking reconstruction, and thoughtful community-building. Located in North Omaha—the most innovative square mile on the planet, Sankofa creates the opportunity for world-changing impact not only in North Omaha but throughout the Greater Omaha Metropolitan area. TheInnovation District will contain::

- Talent Training and Job Placement Opportunities
- Entrepreneurship and Incubator Program
- Small Business Development and Technical Assistance
- · Workforce and Mixed-Income Housing
- An Enterprise Business Park with Shovel Ready Land
- Retail and Other Commercial Real Estate
- Projected Five Year Outcomes:
- \$1.5B of revenue generated from the District
- 30% reduction in crimes in surrounding qualified census tracts
- The creation of 1,300 Jobs that pay at least the NE Average Wage

o Over 400 jobs making \$75,000 per year

· 300 units of mixed income housing

o 100 units of workforce housing

- 15% reduction in health disparities/gap in 68111, 68110
- 100 acres of land redeveloped

Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3.58



See above

### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,606,156**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Locust Street Development (LSD) is a joint venture to bring 80 unit, mixed use development to 16th Street and Locust area. Located at16th and Locust, the concept of Sankofa is a 100-acre innovation district in Omaha, NE that will be anchored by the Cathy Hughes Innovation Center. LSD will be the ideal place to live work and play.

Larry Russell Investments current owns 2823, 2821, 2819 North 16th and has options on 2809, 2807, and 2801 North 16th St. I also own 2814 N 15 ST and 2821 N 15 AV. Locust Street Carpet (Oliver) has options on several property in the same area. Locust Street Carpet will be housed in the mixed use development and have a retail carpet store serving North Omaha and Downtown.





Our goal is to partner with the new North Omaha iHub, however our current address will serve as physical location.

### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,675,000**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Omaha 100 Inc. intends to provide \$100,000 for 100 businesses over the next 3 years, under its 100 program to grow 100 scalable businesses with underserved leaders of color. In addition to this funding, Omaha 100 Inc will also be providing skills training, industry education, and business coaching technical assistance to North Omaha community businesses. Through its partnerships, Omaha 100 Inc. will coordinate technical assistance to provide business advisory, accounting, financial advisory, and legal services. To reverse the widespread economic turmoil that deepened existing disparities and challenges disproportionately felt in low-income and minority communities in North Omaha due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Omaha 100 Inc. will focus on underserved Social Economic Disadvantaged Individuals (SEDI) and Very Small Business (VSB) owners impacted by the global pandemic. Omaha 100 case managers and instructors will follow up with businesses to provide guidance and assistance with skills training. This will allow Omaha 100 Inc. to function as an all-in-one resource that can provide funding and technical assistance to underserved business owners spurring economic growth in the process. The pandemic highlighted the multisector approach that works so well in Nebraska - businesses, government at all levels, and the private sector working together committed to a common goal of serving Nebraska businesses. We urge the state to maintain that commitment by partnering with Omaha 100. The Economic Recovery Act funding can be about more than just a continuing response to the COVID pandemic - it can be a forward-looking approach to charting a strong, thoughtful, and strategic path for long-term recovery and resiliency. As trusted partners, Omaha 100 will be an integral part of the recovery for North Omaha and our innovative approaches can help fuel resiliency. While the funding is short-term, there will be a long-term impact on the resiliency of the North Omaha community. For Omaha 100 specifically, the funding is shortterm. It will allow us to fully engage with North Omaha businesses and ramp up our operations to support access by the sector. This would not be possible without financial support. The following statements are deeply rooted in our core values and drive how we show up and what we believe in our daily work.

 $\cdot$  Successful businesses are supported businesses. North Omaha businesses need support from one another to achieve their greatest goals.

 $\cdot$  No business can achieve its mission on its own. It is only when we connect, convene, and

collaborate to strengthen relationships so that we achieve something greater than ourselves.

· Leaders make better decisions when they represent the communities they serve. Decisions

made with a community are more viable than decisions made for a community.



The Omaha Digital Marketplace will not displace existing businesses or residents. It will enhance opportunities for existing businesses and residents.

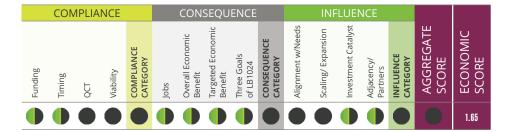
### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$5,511,111**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

VIT is an award-winning SaaS technology and business process automation company. Our patented electronic marketplace platform (eLink) is used for building, hosting, and maintaining customized multi-vendor online shopping marketplaces. Value Innovation Technologies Corp (VIT) requests \$5.5 million to implement a customized online shopping marketplace for Omaha's small and emerging businesses. According to the SBA, only about 64% of small businesses in the United States even have a website. A much smaller percentage have a fully functional e-commerce system capable of integrating with a large organization's procurement system. This problem is even more acute for small businesses in economically disadvantaged communities. Through the Omaha Digital Marketplace, businesses can sell products (and potentially services) to large local companies, institutions, and government entities. As online marketplaces often require complex and costly software and technological frameworks, small businesses often experience difficulty selling to large companies, government entities.

VIT will provide technical assistance to small businesses that sell products in the marketplaces by customizing the Omaha Digital Marketplace, recruiting large buyers to purchase from the marketplace and recruiting local small businesses to sell. Establishing a local VIT office will support the maintenance and expansion of this project. Should VIT receive this grant award, the marketplace will facilitate purchases within approximately six months after funding. The Omaha Digital Marketplace will be a self-sufficient project within five years of funding.

	CON	/IPLIA	NCE			CONSEQUENCE INFLUENCE						INFLUENCE				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3.5





Proposed IHUB operated by Sankofa Economic Development Corporation - Address TBD. Omaha 100: 2401 Lake Street, Omaha, NE 68111 1015 North 98th Street, Suite 100, Omaha, NE 68114 - Our Primary Office

New Branch Office located within the designated census tract.

### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$8,500,000**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Part A of this proposal is for the Financial Education, Counseling, Consulting and wrap around services and the expansion of our office and service area. We understand that financial literacy and education is the key to success for communities which have traditionally been disproportionately impacted by the Covid 19, affordable housing, rising inflation, tax burdens, quality health care, and challenged career/ work opportunities. We plan to have an office in Lincoln which will allow the community of North Omaha to work with State officials for procurement of state contracts, competitive subcontracts, and receive hands on assistance with our Lincoln office. This will also allow Hayes to secure more partnership opportunities and increase the number of jobs available to perform the work. In addition, we propose to partner with the Omaha Public Schools system to provide financial literacy classes/ training, teach or have a club that educates students on the financial services industry and specifically train them on bookkeeping. The bookkeepers will then be paired up with small businesses in the community, to assist them with day-to-day bookkeeping task under our supervision. We will partner with MentorPlus services to assist with student training and engage other financial professionals within the community that mirror the community. In additions, this proposal is for an expansion of services that we already offer directly to our clients or via a collaborative arrangement with Omaha 100, an existing nonprofit corporation. We will administer and deliver the financial consulting and counseling wrap around services in coordination with Omaha 100 on behalf of Sankofa Economic Development IHUB to assist the IHUB with its goal of creating and developing strong new entrepreneurs and existing businesses that can scale, leading to sustained economic growth for Omaha and more particularly the North and South Omaha communities. The services will include: an initial assessment of the businesses' needs; an initial consultation to set expectations; provide general training and seminars around financial education; a preliminary plan to execute that may be modified throughout the service delivery process as circumstances warrant; face to face, email, and written communication on best business practices; periodic (at least monthly) training seminars on various business and personal financial topics; ongoing counseling/coaching; and specific financial management services available for client's success will be as follows and customized and priced to client's business needs specifically to include financial readiness required for capital acquisition. tax compliance and business plan execution; business development services or client acquisition services with federal and state government. These services will be provided from our Omaha location or Lincoln location or from the IHUB operated by Sankofa Economic Development Corporation. Services are ongoing as the client needs arise. The Grant Expenditure Review, Part B of this proposal, will be an important requirement in maintaining compliance and accountability by supporting a series of financial reviews with the grantees. The review will confirm that projects are proceeding as planned and there are no financial irregularities. In the event there are concerns raised as a result, the review will allow corrective actions to minimize the risk of misuse of ARPA funds. These reviews will also help grantees identify ways to strengthen their capacity and operations.



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The two areas are the Enterprise Business Park located roughly at 13th and Locust Street and the Airport Business Park II located near the existing Industrial area by the airport. The Enterprise Business Park is located within a Qualified Census Tract and is zoned appropriately for the project. The Airport Business Park II is located partially within a Qualified Census Tract and the balance is located in an adjacent tract. The Airport Business Park II will need to undergo rezoning and the City would be willing to rezone once we have the properties under control.

**REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$47,201,300** 

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The proposal consists of the acquisition of land and the subsequent master planning and infrastructure development to create a shovel-ready business park that will serve as an employment center for the North Omaha area. The Chamber, in association with the City of Omaha, has identified two areas that are in close proximity for the creation of the business park that combined have will have a transformational impact on the North Omaha area. This impact will be realized through the creation of employment and business location opportunities that residents of North Omaha can access creating generational wealth in the area. The two areas are the Enterprise Business Park located roughly at 13th and Locust Street and the Airport Business Park II located near the existing Industrial area by the airport. The Chamber worked with Lamp Rynearson in 2021 to update a study that identified the appropriate area for acquisition and redevelopment. We project that the Enterprise Business Park would be an approximate 22-month development process that would include due diligence, environmental clean-up, infrastructure engineering and construction and platting. The Airport Business Park II would be a slightly longer development timeline looking at approximately 36 months but we believe we can condense this. The Chamber is ready to initiate the process in November of 2022.

## **#245** FLEX FACILITY IN NORTH OMAHA

The project would be located in qualified census tract within North Omaha but the exact location has yet to be identified. Bison has already located its Nebraska Scientific facility within North Omaha, right across the street from a qualified census tract and is familiar with the area.

## **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,000,000**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

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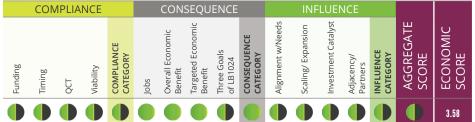
Bison plans to build a 50,000+ sq ft flex building in North Omaha to support several of Bison's existing companies in a diverse group of industries which will immediately provide 30 to 50 significant jobs to the area with high potential for expansion and additional job creation over the next 3 years.

Bison's company EverSeal currently purchases several million dollars of sealant annually from major supplier like Sherwin Williams and General Electric and has already completed a study on manufacturing this sealant in-house. EverSeal's current uses alone will create around 20 high paying manufacturing jobs with the potential for more as EverSeal expands throughout the U.S. (EverSeal has doubled in size, both EE count and revenue, in the past 18 months). Additional expansion by EverSeal is expected to double the amount of sealant needed over the future 18 months which will in turn double the manufacturing capabilities needed. EverSeal currently applies its sealant (which includes a 50 year no leak guaranty) exclusively through the use of its own employees, an opportunity exists to expand into retail sales of the EverSeal sealant which could greatly increase the manufacturing demand for the product.

Another of Bison's companies, U.S. Grounds Maintenance, provides high quality grounds maintenance services to government and commercial customers through the U.S. including Offutt Airforce Base and its privatized housing, Rising View. A consideration in selecting which projects to bid is proximity to the site or "windshield time", which makes It impractical to complete projects in North Omaha at this time. U.S. Grounds would immediately take space in the new flex building in order to commence work on grounds maintenance contracts in the region, creating an immediate need for 10-20 jobs and likely expansion as additional contracts are secured, most being government contracts providing significant wages and benefits under the McNamara O'Hara Service Contract Act.

Bison also has a significant need for technological and customer support roles to support its various companies and would utilize the flex building as an innovation center that teaches people to code, hires programmers and developers, has R&D labs, a provides customer service center.







Sankofa will start in a temporary location (24th and Burdette) to immediately start training those for the future jobs coming. The final location will be at Enterprise Park. All of these opportunities will be within Qualified Census Tracts and serving those from Qualified Census Tracts.

## **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,000,000**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Achieving the American dream—the opportunity to succeed, to provide food and shelter for family members, education for children, hope for a better life, and freedom of opportunity requires capital. And to grow capital, you need capital. It's a basic tenet of our economy. Most houses are bought with a mortgage and most businesses rely on credit to fund their expansion. But for generations of North Omaha Black Americans, equitable access to the banking system is a promise that has never been fulfilled. From Jim Crow laws to the New Deal, Black Americans have faced systemic financial discrimination and exclusion, casting a long shadow of economic disparity that continues today.

This proposal will do the following:

1. Capital to acquire and scale. LB 1024 funds will be used to acquire a community bank and transition the bank to North Omaha. Funds will be used to upgrade IT costs and any compliance expenses.

2. Increase Revenue opportunities. LB 1024 funds will be us to market our services to more corporations, governments, and state and federal agencies.

3. Increase deposits. While two years ago, his community bank would have greatly benefited from a boost in deposits, liquidity is currently plentiful in this market. Many businesses, including Netflix and PayPal, have moved millions in deposits to minority institutions to support the social justice movement. We will capitalize on being the twentieth (20) black own banked in America.

Sankofa Capital's mission has been to provide Omahans with access to capital and competitively priced banking solutions.

Projected Four Year Outcomes:

• \$120m – in assets

- \$23 million in loans through public and private partnerships
- \$85 million in new community lending

• \$.80 – approximately 80 cents of every dollars is reinvested back into our community fueling business growth, job creation, and development

• 500 – Support more than 500 loans to small business nationwide, through partnerships.

Sankofa Capital must be central to any economic recovery action plan for North Omaha.



**#292** BRINGING HIGH QUALITY CHILDCARE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Seeking location with track 72.12

### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$2,600,000**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The Company is prepared to introduce the following service to the market:bEarly Childhood Education and Childcare: Empowering Kids Academy is a licensed childcare center and preschool program that provides high quality childcare for children ages 6 weeks to 13 years of age. We offer traditional schedules, part-time schedules, drop-in care, before and after school care and summer programs for school age children.

Our program provides a unique environment and philosophy. We are a small, family oriented program. The owners of Empowering Kids Academy are also the directors allowing us to be heavily involved daily and in the building at all times.

Unlike most childcare centers we have started Empowering Kids Academy from the ground up as a small in-home childcare program. Our owners/directors have a vast amount of knowledge and expertise in the field of early childhood education.

Children at EKA are more then just a number, we value relationships, connections and family. As owners we make this a priority and a way of conducting business. We are fully invested in the families we provide care to. Parents, children and families will be impressed with our open layout and design. Not only do children have classrooms that meet their developmental needs but there are plenty of oppurtunities for play and exploration in our indoor playground, theater room and art/science center! Empowering Kids Academy invites several community partners for basketball, soccer, yoga, dance, cooking, foreign languages and much more so our kiddos are always engaged while acquiring new and exciting skills. We have successfully accomplished this with our location in West Omaha and now want to bring all EKA has to offer to North Omaha and give the families and children in this area the early childhood education they need and deserve. We are hoping to find the perfect location within 6-12 months and then begin the building process which may take 12-36 months based on the build out process.





N/A

## **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$1,844,300**

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

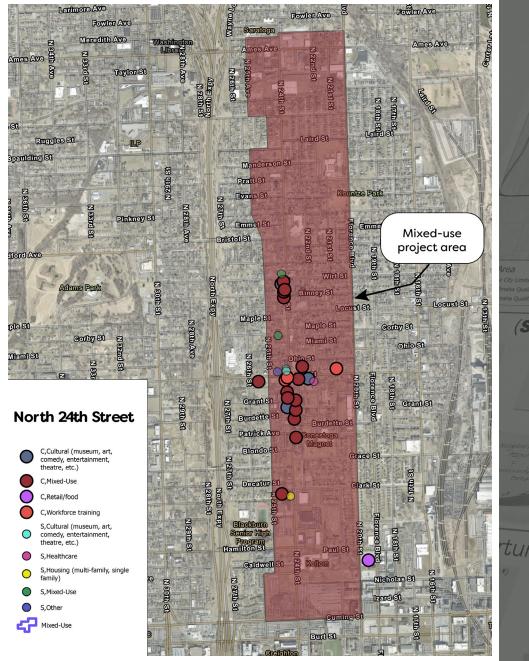
1st Sky Omaha is working diving deeper into the news related to North and South Omaha, while expanding our reach to different states connected to North Omaha. Connections have been made with Native Omaha people who live in and out of the state and are still very much invested in North and South Omaha on many different levels. 1st Sky Omaha intends on serving the needs of those individuals while raising up the voices in the area. 1st Sky Omaha has found a way to reach many interested neighbors and talk about the subjects that affect all of us and calling to action these neighbors in the process. 1st Sky Omaha does this with the use of new media, which includes digital radio and video channels, live streaming on social media networks, and engaging in regular roundtable discussions on a weekly basis. We fill the gap of hyper local news and public discussion which we intend on duplicating in various other markets. The future means finding and training new writers and turning them into citizen journalists in order to tell and share the news that is relevant to our neighborhoods. We are looking to secure a facility where we can train teams of neighbors, especially people of color, who will be able to have access to places that mainstream media does not. They will be trained in journalism, and in the tech of new media to reach people where they are at, and create an aware, conscious, and civically minded audience ready to make change. In three years, we will be able to have a sustainable model of memberships, ads and sales, non-profit journalism dollars and event hosting, that will allow us to keep gathering and disseminating information where it is most needed. And most importantly, we will be able to keep hearing from even more people in our neighborhoods, especially those who are the most looked over where voices need to be heard. We must do this with North Omaha as the base, and spread out even beyond our state.

	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE		CONSEQUENCE					INFLUENCE						
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																1.75

36 / Olsson. An engineering and design firm with purpose.









#### TABLE 4. North 24th Street Geographic Area of Focus

ID #	ORGANIZATION	TITLE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	GRANT REQUEST	RECOMMENDED FUNDING
15	Omaha Economic Development Corporation	Community Innovation Campus	\$11,830,400.00	\$9,000,000.00	\$8,000,000.00
49	Omaha Economic Development Corporation	North 24th Street: Opportunity Ecosystem	\$68,700,000.00	\$40,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00
67	Heart Ministry Center	Heart Ministry Center Expansion and Social Enterprise	\$8,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$1,500,000.00
75	Nebraska Startup Academy	Nebraska Startup Academy	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,200,000.00
102	Forever North, LLC	Forever North Mixed Use Development	\$58,241,742.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
115	African-American Empowerment Network	Pathway to Careers, Wealth and Community Ownership, 3 Year Proposal	\$31,288,000.00	\$15,614,000.00	\$14,500,000.00
185	Culxr House	Culxr House Economic Proposal	\$2,738,000.00	\$2,738,000.00	\$2,738,000.00
207	Great Plains Black Museum and Interpretive Center Inc	The New Great Plains Black History Museum	\$11,000,000.00	\$1,100,000.00	\$1,100,000.00
208	The Omaha Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters	Fire Station 14 Redevelopment Project	\$3,363,100.00	\$3,213,100.00	\$2,000,000.00
226	The Mildred D Brown Memorial Study Center Inc	MDBMSC Development Plan	\$1,233,000.00	\$830,000.00	\$830,000.00
59	North Omaha Rising LLC (NOR) - fund only 24th projects	The Dreamland Project	\$48,601,558.00	\$48,601,558.00	\$0
83	North 24th Street Business Improvement District Association	North 24th Street BID Infrastructure Improvement Plan	\$58,959,807.00	\$47,892,307.00	\$0
105	Goodwin Industries, LLC	Wirt Street Mixed-use Development	\$9,614,127.00	\$3,182,636.00	\$0
108	TERENCE CRAWFORD	OOIC PROJECT	\$42,000,000.00	\$18,000,000.00	\$0
165	North Omaha Music & Arts (NOMA)	NOMA Academy and Performing Arts Studio	\$30,800,000.00	\$30,800,000.00	\$0
238	Carver Financial Innovation Center (SMB Enterprises and Barak II)	Carver Legacy Center and Carver Legacy Accelerator	\$58,800,000.00	\$24,000,000.00	\$0
325	Valentine - Shirley LLC dba Celebration of Life Mortuary and Crematory	Restoration of the former historical Myers Funeral Home	\$3,500,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0
Total			\$449,869,734.00	\$262,171,601.00	\$53,868,000.00

Catalyst Proposals Supplemental Proposals



OEDC owns the building and site of the Community Innovation Campus, 1127 North 20th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102. The building has been vacant for several years. The site measures 2.05 acres, including an industrial building measuring 19,060 square feet.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$9,000,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

The Community Innovation Campus is a collaborative project undertaken between OEDC and CHI Health to support the relocation of CHI's commissary kitchen and to create a new dietary call center. The project will relocate a function that had been moved deep into the suburbs of Omaha, where North Omaha residents, many of whom previously staffed the kitchen, couldn't work due to transportation and commute time constraints. To support this project, OEDC will rehab a 19,000+ SF facility located in North Omaha at 1127 North 20th Street. The Community Innovation Campus addresses the issues of income inequality and access to urban jobs with significant career ladder opportunities for local residents. All of the jobs will pay in excess of the Living Wage, offer benefits, and are well above current per capita income levels in the targeted QCTs.

The Community Innovation Campus meets the preliminary criteria in LB1024, including funding commitments, timing and project readiness. The Campus aligns with our mission, and that of the Legislature, to be transformational, improving the quality of life of North Omaha residents. The Campus is a strategically designed project that demonstrates how a well-shepherded, public-private partnership can lead to sustainable economic outcomes. It will cause a next level change in the economic performance of North Omaha, providing opportunity to low-income residents to raise household income levels, which brings more dollars to circulate within the surrounding neighborhood businesses. A key strategy included with this project is the targeted disadvantaged recruitment and hiring of local residents who are low income. The negotiated lease terms contribute to long lasting economic growth that is sustainable.

Construction Documents are complete, have been reviewed by the City of Omaha Planning Department, and the building permit is ready. We anticipate rehabilitation on/conversion of the facility into the Community Innovation Campus to begin within 90 days of state-approved ARPA funds for this project. In working with our General Contractor, LundRoss Constructors, we are monitoring lead times for materials and equipment orders. With fluctuations in delivery times, we anticipate the project will be completed within 12-18 months of the Notice to Proceed for the contractor.

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Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3.73





Buildings and parcels included in the North 24th Street: Opportunity Ecosystem project are:

• The Creatives Lofts, 2035 North 24th Street, will be constructed in QCT 12. The parcel is vacant and owned by OEDC.

• The Business & Technology Center will be constructed on vacant parcels located between N 25th - N 26th Streets, Lizzie Robinson - Lake Streets in QCT 11. OEDC has a request pending for acquisition of the parcels.

• (Former) Salem Pantry, 2205 North 24th Street, is located in QCT 12. This vacant building owned by OEDC.

• The Jewell Building, 2221 North 24th Street, is located in QCT 12. The building is occupied and owned by OEDC.

• (Former) Jesse's Bar, 2311 North 24th Street, is located in QCT 12. The building is vacant and owned by OEDC.

• My Place, 2229 Lake Street, is located in QCT 12. The building is under a 1-year lease and is owned by OEDC.

• The Jensen Building, 2314 North 24th Street, is located in QCT 11. The building is occupied and owned by OEDC.

• (Former) Bethel AME Church, 2428 Franklin Street, is located in QCT 11. The building is vacant and owned by OEDC.

• Sig-n-Archer's, 2302 North 24th Street, is located in QCT 11. The building is vacant and owned by OEDC.

**REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$40,000,000** 

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The North 24th Street: Opportunity Ecosystem is a place-based project undertaken by OEDC. It addresses the issues of income inequality, access to urban jobs, North Omaha's entrepreneurial desert, and gaps in entry/next level housing typologies. The project meets the preliminary criteria in LB1024, including funding commitments, timing and project readiness. The project aligns with our mission, and that of the Legislature, to foster desirable transformation, improving the quality of life of North Omaha residents. It is part of the ongoing holistic efforts to elevate and revitalize the North 24th Street Historic Corridor. North 24th Street: Opportunity Ecosytem is an equitable, economic growth project that prioritizes racial inclusion and economic mobility, creating fundamental change in the misshapen local economies of North Omaha. Opportunity Ecosystem is strategically designed to cause a next level change in the economic performance of North Omaha, providing opportunity to low-income residents to raise household income levels, which brings more dollars to circulate within the surrounding neighborhood businesses.

We anticipate a phased development, with all components completed by December, 2026, beginning immediately with release of state-approved ARPA funds. In working with our General Contractor, CJR Construction, LLC, we anticipate the project will be completed within 36 months of the Notice to Proceed for the contractor. The North 24th Street: Opportunity Ecosystem project takes our previous development activities to scale. It is grounded in our experience in residential and commercial real estate and business development ventures within the overall local context of place. This project will be implemented on properties owned by OEDC and will remain under the organization's ownership,. The Opportunity Ecosystem project will strengthen the Corridor between Hamilton and Lake Streets, accelerating economic activity through business and entrepreneurial development, job creation, and the incorporation of a variety of mixed income housing typologies while improving the spatial connectivity of the street and its physical elements. At completion, early projections include: commercial space for approximately 53 new businesses with the potential to generate 105 jobs and 105 new residential units.

	CON	<b>IPLIA</b>	NCE			CONSEQUENCE					INF		<b>ICE</b>			
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	sdol	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																1.6

# **#67** HEART MINISTRY CENTER EXPANSION AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

The Center owns the lot at 2934 N. 24th St. and is under contract with the Land Bank for the lot at 3002 N. 24th St. and should close on that property by year-end 2022. The Center intends to purchase additional land at 3006 N 24th St. and 3022 N. 24th St., and has been in preliminary negotiations with the owners for approximately two years. Though no decision has been made, the Center would most likely demolish the building at 3006 N 24th St. and renovate the building at 3022 N. 24th St. depending on which social enterprises are created. These locations are directly across 24th St. from the Center's current location. If the Center is unable to acquire the lots at 3006 and 3022, we would look at additional locations within a six block radius of our campus.

The Center is working with Alley Poyner to develop concepts and layouts for the social enterprises. This is a work in progress but Alley Poyner can provide more details and answer any specific questions in the upcoming months.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$3,000,000**

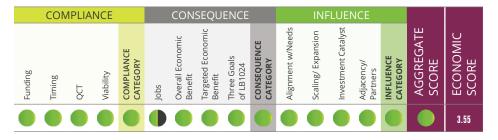
#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

The Center will create additional social enterprises that follow a similar model to the Fresh Start Laundromat as described above.

The Center owns the lot at 2934 N. 24th St. and is under contract with the Land Bank for the lot at 3002 N. 24th St. and should close on that property by year-end 2022. The Center intends to purchase additional land at 3006 N 24th St. and 3022 N. 24th St., and has been in preliminary negotiations with the owners for approximately two years. Though no decision has been made, the Center would most likely demolish the building at 3006 N 24th St. and renovate the building at 3022 N. 24th St. depending on which social enterprises are created.

The Center is exploring several options for our next social enterprises including a mechanic shop, restaurant, grocery store, daycare, bank, barbershop, salon, fitness center, clothing store or other business as suggested by our community member survey. We want to create social enterprises that are both community-driven and viable. We are actively surveying the Center's clientele through our food distribution program, which is the largest food pantry in the state, through our laundromat and the A Way Forward program, as well as utilizing social media. The Center recently formed a Social Enterprise Committee from its board of directors and leadership team. The Social Enterprise committee will provide the business acumen and support necessary to ensure the social enterprises are fiscally responsible and sustainable. This Social Enterprise Committee includes Terri Sanders of the Omaha Star and Bryan Wilson of Midwest Technology Partners who is also the incoming president of 100 Black men.

The Center has grown organically and would like to continue this organic growth rather than rushing a project. With that in mind, the Center anticipates the first social enterprise to begin serving clients by July 2025. A general timeline with milestones can be found below. This funding request, if awarded, would go toward the construction costs associated with building and/or renovating structures to house the social enterprises.





2401 Lake Street

Omaha, NE 68111

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$1,200,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

U The Nebraska Startup Academy's mission is to educate, support, and connect founders, investors, and corporations to stimulate Nebraska's startup ecosystem and further secure technical talent maturation. The Academy will create startups generating more technical jobs via a multi-disciplinary curriculum, founder support, and ecosystem-stimulating events. The Nebraska Startup Academy has agreements to collaborate with existing organizations in Nebraska.





2505 North 24th Street, Omaha, NE 68110 (North East corner of 24th and Lake Street, Omaha, NE)

**REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,000,000** 

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

A transformational project in the heart of North Omaha, Blair Freeman and North End Teleservices's proposed mixed-use development will be a catalyst for renewed economic stability, affordable housing, and community ownership in North Omaha. The multi-story development features up to 80 mixed-income, affordable apartment units for rent, as well as a daycare, food services, retail, commercial office space, and community & collaborative spaces, at the center of North Omaha – the intersection of 24th Street and Lake Street. In addition to the multi-story, mixed-use development, single-family lots to the north of the multi-use site – on Ohio Street – will be transformed into an innovative pocket neighborhood that centers shared garden and green spaces connecting facing singlefamily homes. The project is inspired and lead by local, African-American, female leadership – Carmen Tapio, of North End Teleservices, in partnership with Blair Freeman, Owners' Representative Firm. Its purpose is to ignite local leadership, entrepreneurship, ownership, and community from the insideout, spurring additional growth and investment as the neighborhood continues to transform. With completion planned for December 2024 and preliminary design nearing completion, this project has the momentum, support, and leadership to be a successful driver for positive change in North Omaha.

# **#115** PATHWAY TO CAREERS, WEALTH AND COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP...3 YEAR PROPOSAL

The primary location is 24th and Lake. Lake Point Building

The secondary location is 52nd and Ames. Village Empowerment Center.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$15,614,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

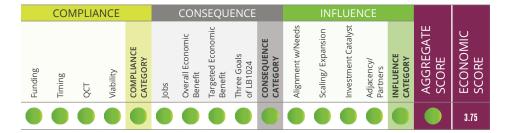
Prior to the pandemic, the Empowerment Network Collaborative with data provided by the UNO Research Division and other sources was able to document measurable progress in eight of 10 areas in the Transformation Plan. During the peak of the pandemic, the Network shifted to leading coordination of efforts to connect residents to needed services and meeting needs brought on by the crisis. In addition to regular responsibilities, the Network worked with community partners, elected officials and others to connect residents to housing, job training, health services and food.

The collaborative work has been recognized by the Obama Foundation, Department of Justice, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Baylor University, Harvard University and others as a best practice, evidence-based model. The Empowerment Network has successfully managed millions of dollars from public and private sources including the City of Omaha, Charles E Lakin Foundation, Weitz Family Foundation, State of Nebraska, Douglas County, Health and Human Services, HUD, Obama Foundation, local foundations, Fortune 500 corporations and other sources. In addition, the Network has worked with hundreds of community partners to develop and implement collective strategies.

The plan submitted here will allow the Empowerment Network to build capacity over the next few years to continue showing what is possible through collaborative action. The goal for the plan is to show once again the economic and social impact of the collective work. The Network will use the evidence to secure and increase local and national funding. In addition, the Network will expand its earned revenue strategy to create a self-sufficiency model and build capacity of the community to invest in itself.

The strategies identified in this project include: Village Empowerment Center, Step-Up Omaha STEAM expansion, Skill Up Employment Program for Adults, Redefine the Game Career Advancement Program, Legacy Wealth Initiative, Violence Prevention Programs including Community Partners, Churches and Neighborhoods, 24th and Lake Events and Activities, Capacity-Building in the areas of Financial Management and Evaluation; and Operational support to execute and implement the project.

COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE	INFLUENCE	
Funding Timing QCT Viability <b>COMPLIANCE</b> CATEGORY	Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 <b>CONSEQUENCE</b> CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners INFLUENCE	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			3.08





Located in the North 24th Street corridor, between Wirt and Binney Streets. This proposed location has no pizza shops with in miles. No pizza chain will deliver to this community.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$2,738,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Culxr House exists in an underserved area, in the neighborhoods of North Omaha, where public benefit corporations attempt to answer a spectrum of needs in relation to these target demographics. Arts and Culture services and opportunities are scant or inaccessible to them, thereby contributing to the brain drain recognized throughout the metropolitan area. Culxr House economic proposal addresses these issues by primarily offering a platform for artists, creatives, and entrepreneurs to develop their brand. Just as important, it offers a plan for transformational urban development. Phase One of this grant would give North Omaha artists and entrepreneurs access to subject matter experts and resources developed with Culxr House, while helping cover capacity building for operations and programs, such as education and community functions (taking place in 2023). This includes the purchase of three adjacent lots at 3014 N 24th Street, 3012 N 24th Street, and 2414 Binney Street, and for facility improvements at 3014 N 24th Street, which is the main premises for nonprofit activity. During Phase Two, improvements at 3012 N 24th Streets will transform the space into a pizza shop run by a jobs program managed by Culxr House, after the permitting process is complete. The adjacent alley will be vacated in tandem, to allow for outdoor dining and seating, and will only be open for pedestrian traffic. Phase Three begins the planning for affordable housing with mixed-use at 2414 N 24th Street in 2023. Phase Four sees funding for the construction of the affordable housing project in 2024, and for Culxr House operations and programs to continue our mission that same year. Phase Five will encompass the planning and the purchase of property at 3006 N 24th Street for a redevelopment project for the North 24th Street corridor. This property houses four bay areas and will conform to the Forever North Strategy adopted by the City of Omaha, and the location will undergo facility improvements to meet compliance and zoning codes, and as prescribed by LB1024.

# **#207** THE NEW GREAT PLAINS BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

The location that the Great Plains Black History Museum looks to erect its new facility is the two to three empty lots located between the Webster Telephone Exchange Building 2213 Lake Street, Omaha, NE 68110 and The Union for Contemporary Art 2423 North 24th Street, Omaha, NE 68110, community development.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$1,100,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The Great Plains Black History Museum is looking to build a new facility that will help attract thousands back to the 24th and lake area. As such, the new building would create an estimated \$64 million impact on the Omaha economic community in the first five years of operation. The museum estimates that approximately 65,000 visitors would walk through the doors the first year, with 19,500 of them coming from out of town. The estimated annual new Tourism Revenue Direct Impact would be \$1.7 million. Allowing Omaha and the state of Nebraska to tap into the \$40 billion annual market of African American tourism and generate a positive, measurable return on investment to the Omaha community and the state. The location that the Great Plains Black History Museum looks to erect its new facility is the two to three empty lots located between the Webster Telephone Exchange Building 2213 Lake Street, Omaha, NE 68110 and The Union for Contemporary Art 2423 North 24th Street, Omaha, NE 68110, community development. Facility timeline: design will start in December 2022, construction will start May 2023 with project completion of Feb 2025

COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE	INFLUENCE	
Funding Timing QCT Viability COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 <b>CONSEQUENCE</b> CONSEQUENCE	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			1.6

	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE			CONSEQUENCE					INF	LUEN	<b>ICE</b>				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE	
																4.4	



2028 Lake St, Omaha, NE 68110

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$3,213,100**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Fire Station 14 has a long and illustrious history in the city of Omaha. It was the last firehouse to be segregated in Omaha, and it is now home to the Omaha Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters. The Fire Station 14 Redevelopment Project seeks to use the building as a talent pipeline for minority job seekers interested in firefighting, policing, emergency medical services, and nursing. We also intend to start a coffee house and food incubator for budding entrepreneurs. This project includes extending the second floor and adding rooftop permaculture to provide North Omaha with more access to nutritious year-round meals.

Our city needs to become more inclusive in order to survive. This is because we are facing a worker shortage. Many first responders are reaching retirement age. We may alleviate this problem by providing minority applicants with chances through initiatives like Fire Station 14, which would help us meet the impending worker shortages in emergency services.

This new hub celebrates the tradition of black firefighters in Omaha, which started over a century ago with Dr. Mathew Oliver Ricketts. In 1895, he not only requested the first African-American firefighters be hired by the city but was also later elected as the first African-American to Nebraska Legislature and graduated from what is now the University of Nebraska Medical Center - making him UNMC's first African-American graduate.

Our goal is to partner with Metropolitan Community College and iEXCEL at UNMC so that we can attract people of all ages, from all backgrounds, into the building. We will use cutting-edge technologies like AR/VR simulation to provide experiences that would not only teach these youngsters more about these vital professions but also help experienced professionals update their skills according to current best practices and standards.

We understand how crucial education is and want to offer educational opportunities to our community. This would begin with new applicants, all the way up to promotional chances for current members. By having this "satellite" program in North Omaha, it might encourage locals who don't have easy access to Irvington or South Omaha classes, to attend them here.



2216 North 24th Street, Omaha, Nebraska

The location is a designated historical building and is owner occupied

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$830,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The MDBMSC Development Plan encompasses a capital project of developing the building at 2216 N 24th Street into a museum focused on the black newspaper and the life of pioneer publisher Mildred Brown, thus creating a visitor attraction that will also be a source for economic revenue, create jobs, and contribute to the traffic flow in the area. The MDBMSC Development Plan has a purpose to create jobs within the organization to expand the organization and align with the goals of the strategic plan to develop a self-sustaining organization that has growth potential into the future in all programs and with the facility that we occupy. The building at 2216 N 24th St is on the historic register, which gives it significance and speaks to the value of maintaining this site and developing it as tourist attraction. This proposal supports the programs of MDBMSC that will provide funding for the organization has profit centers (printing and the newspaper), the monies that will create sustainable jobs that will be sustainable by profits created in the businesses.

Construction and improvements to the building would begin ASAP with the attraction of a museum to be completed and open by 2025.

Jobs will be created and staffed on a quarterly basis until all positions are filled by Q3 2024.

Q3 2024 the organization will expand to physically occupy the offices and operations to occupy owned property at 2218 N 24th Street which will expand the organization's capacity and allow 2216 North 24th Street to be fully developed into the planned museum space. When the museum is opened it too will create approximately four to six part time jobs to staff the museum. All elements of the proposal will be completed by 2025.







Each site has unique characteristics and at the same time, are very similar. There are large amounts of vacant lots in the Miami Place (16) area and Kountze Place (27) locations. Our goal is to infill these lots, potentially renovate or reconstruct the occupied lots, and create common community space such as pocket parks and open green space. Nearby each of the three sites, there are schools, businesses, non-profits, and transportation lines along 30th and 24th Streets, and Lake Street. Specifically, each site is also conveniently located along the new North Omaha Trail. Below are the addresses to the land NOR owns:

J		
1. 1720 N. 24th Street	17. 2723 North 26th Street	33. 3111 Miami St
2. 2620 North 26th Street	18. 2519 Corby Street	34. 3112 Miami St
3. 2518 Ohio Street	19. 2517 Corby Street	35. 3114 Miami St
4. 2520 Ohio Street	20. 2513 Corby Street	36. 3115 Miami St
5. 2526 Ohio Street	21. 2802 North 25th Street	37. 3124 Miami St
6. 2601 North 26th Street	22. 2804 North 25th Street	38. 3126 Miami St
7. 2603 North 26th Street	23. 2806 North 25th Street	39. 3102 Ohio St
8. 2529 Miami Street	24. 2814 North 25th Street	40. 3104 Ohio St
9. 2525 Miami Street	25. 2519 Ohio Street	41. 3112 Ohio St.
10. 2523 Miami Street	26. 2523 Ohio Street	42. 3131 Ohio St
11. 2703 North 26th Street	27. 2423 Ohio Street	43. 3135 Ohio St
12. 2707 North 26th Street	28. 2620 North 25th Street	44. 3229 Ohio St
13. 2709 North 26th Street	29. 3101 Miami St	45. 3233 Ohio St
14. 2711 North 26th Street	30. 3102 Miami St	46. 3018 Ohio St
15. 2713 North 26th Street	31. 3106 Miami St	-0.0010 0110 01
16. 2715 North 26th Street	32. 3107 Miami St	
	52. 5107 Mildilli 50	

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$48,601,558**

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**PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION:** The Dreamland is a collection of three impactful community housing developments with a goal to create a transformational result. We will support the community by creating new housing solutions, including bike, running, and walking paths, providing green space and pocket parks/play areas for kids and adults, and by using passive energy solutions for reduced utility expenses for residents.

Miami Place is an affordable housing development consisting of 40 to 50 new units just north of 30th and Lake Streets. This site is between 31st Street and 32nd Street to the east and west, and from Ohio Street to Miami Street to the south and north. A majority of the lots are currently vacant.

Kountze Place is also an affordable housing development on vacant lots. This infill development consists of 50 to 60 new units primarily concentrated in a 2-square block area with Corby Street to the north, 25th Street to the east, Ohio Street to the south, and 26th Street to the west. Kountze Place is also located along the new North Omaha Trail.

Optima is a multistory commercial office space at 1702 N. 24th Street. It has a poised and strategic position along North 24th Street as it serves as a gateway into the Historical District towards 24th & Lake. This is a great project for an exterior façade upgrade and restoration as part of the North Omaha Business Improvement District.

These three projects are scheduled for completion in 2025.



# **#83** NORTH 24TH STREET BID INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

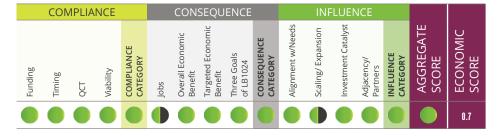
The North 24th Street Business Improvement District (BID) area is Meredith Avenue to the north, 25th Avenue to the west, Cuming Street to the south, and 23rd Street to 20th Street to the east in Omaha, Nebraska.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$47,892,307**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The North 24th Street Infrastructure Improvement Plan is transformational for North 24th Street in function and appearance because it focuses on renovating, repairing, and revitalizing the physical and build environment. This proposal requests funding for façade improvement, streetscape upgrade, broadband implementation and technical assistance for businesses within the North 24th Street Streetscape area. Phase I of the Façade Improvement Program will begin in October of 2023 to preserve 5 to 10 iconic buildings on the front footage of North 24th Street. Technical project assistance will be provided to applicants of the Façade Improvement Program. The North 24th Street Streetscape Plan is a plan implemented in phases and organized by zones. Zone 1 is from Patrick Ave. to Cuming St; Zone 2 is from Ohio St. to Patrick Ave; Zone 3 is from Ohio St. to Spencer St.; Zone 4 is form Spencer St. to Meredith Ave. The Streetscape Master Plan will address: sidewalk and curb repair, traffic speed control, signaling infrastructure, pedestrian safety, lighting, sustainable landscaping, historical theming, parking, and multimodal transit. A \$3.6M earmark has been secured to begin Phase I and will focus on Zone 2 from Ohio Street to Lizzie Robinson. See the attached project timeline which shows a completed streetscape plan by July of 2026.

North 24th Street Broadband Implementation is designed to provide a fiber-optic upgrade of 1 gigabyte to an underserved area. The broadband implementation will provide increased upload and download speeds to users at an affordable rate. The timeline for broadband implementation would follow the streetscape construction timeline closely.





3106 North 24th Street Omaha, NE 68110

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$3,182,636**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The Wirt Street Development is located at 3106 North Street 24th, the former location of Reed's Ice Creams production facility on the northwest corner of a historic intersection on North 24th Street. To the south is the former Urban League building. To the southeast is Heart Ministry Center, a food pantry and laundromat. Directly east is the Calvin Memorial Presbyterian Church, which is historically designated and featured in a 1966 documentary, A Time for Burning. The Wirt Street Development is a 3-story mixed-use development, 1st floor commercial, 2nd and 3rd floors residential. 1, 2, and 3 bedrooms, mixed-income apartment units the development plans for 28-units There will be seven one-bedrooms; 18 two-bedrooms and three three-bedroom units. The commercial floor will be marketed to house a café or small grocer.

This is an infill development project which is currently located on a vacant lot. The lot sits on 0.437 acres and is currently zoned General Commercial District. Forever North recommends Neighborhood Business District with an ACI overlay. Site demolition and clearance is needed to remove remnants of foundation and basement. The land is owned by Daniel M. Goodwin, Jr. and LaVonya Goodwin. If financing is secured planning for the project could begin as early as Q2 of 2023.



Former OOIC building

2415 Corby Street

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#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$18,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

DEMOLISH EXISTING OOIC BUILDING AND BUILD A NEW MIXED USE PROJECT THAT THE RESIDENTS OF NORTH OMAHA CAN BE PROUD OF. PROJECT WILL CONSIST OF APPROXIMATELY 160 RESIDENTIAL UNITS WITH 9,000 SQUARE FEET GROUND FLOOR RETAIL/COMMERCIAL SPACES. CONSTRUCTION IS PROPOSED TO START 2/2024 AND BE COMPLETED 4/2026.

COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE		ш
Funding Timing QCT Viability COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 of LB1024 CONSEQUENCE	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			2.63

	CON	/IPLIA	NCE			CON	SEQU	ENCE			INF	LUEN	ICE			
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																2.18



NOMA was recently granted the ownership of the former Love's Jazz building at 2510 N. 24th St. The NOMA Academy and Performing Arts Studio will be located at 2506 and 2510 North 24th Street, on the corner of 24th and Lake. Adjacent to the three buildings is the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park. Diagonally across the location is The Union for Contemporary Art, 350 feet south on 24th street is Dreamland Park with a homage to Jazz and Blues musicians, and one-fifth of a mile south of the location is the Great Plains Black History Museum. 0.3 miles north of the location is Culxr House.

The capital project includes renovating the current building as the Academy, while student application progresses, which will enable initial programming of music education across several instruments to start. The current building requires extensive remodeling to provide private, sound-proof rooms for individual and small group lessons to occur. It also includes a café which will serve students and the community, in addition to funding a small bar for use during music events. The capital project also includes a Performing Arts Studio, a true entertainment venue drawing people from all walks of life and who are willing to pay to hang out and listen to world-class talented artists.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$30,800,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

North Omaha Music & Arts (NOMA) was founded to give children and youth of the Omaha community an opportunity to grow and develop their creative talents no matter their background. The NOMA Academy and Performing Arts Studio is part of the North Omaha community redevelopment efforts to present something truly transformative to the community. We have assembled an incredibly dedicated team that has developed a vision for the organization that will ensure the growth and sustainability for not only the North Omaha community, but the entire city of Omaha. The Academy and Performing Arts Studio will be located at 2510 N 24th St, Omaha, Nebraska. Our total estimated cost for the renovation and build out for the property is \$18.5 million and our estimated operational and programming expenses for the next three years, not including construction is approximately \$12.3 million. Our plan is to build in phases. The first phase will renovate the current space as it sits today and will occur after completing fundraising for \$3.2 million. The second phase will involve the removal of the far north building (smallest of the three) and build out the combined space between it and the adjacent property once fundraising of \$14 million is completed. Another \$1.3 million is included in the \$18.5 million capital budget to provide instruments, technology, and a mural on the south exterior wall. The remaining \$12.3 million of the request for three years of operational and programming is key to ensuring economic recovery of the North Omaha, 24th Street district and neighborhood, where the quality of training and education will be accompanied by a world-class music and art talent creating an environment for social interactions with our Academy and Performing Arts Studio to be enjoyed by the entire North Omaha area.



## **#238** CARVER LEGACY CENTER AND CARVER LEGACY ACCELERATOR

The physical location is 2416 Lake Street for the Carver Legacy Center.

The tentative location for the Carver Legacy Accelerator with drive up ATM/ITM is 25th and Lake.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$24,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The Carver Legacy Accelerator would support the mission of the Carver Legacy Center and respond to needs identified since the launch of the Carver.

Businesses are looking for meeting and office space and a place to receive technical assistance. The space at the original Carver building is limited.

The Carver team is requesting \$10,000,000 in grant funding or \$20,000,000 in deposits to be leveraged into loans for businesses. The Carver is also requesting \$3.5 million to support the creation of the Carver Legacy Business Accelerator on the corner of 25th and Lake.

The building would be owned by the Carver Legacy Center partners, SMB Enterprises (Willie and Yolanda Barney) and Barak II (Martin and Lynnell Williams).

Since the Carver team launched its website, over 200 entries have been received.

African-American and North Omaha residents and business owners are looking for support to:

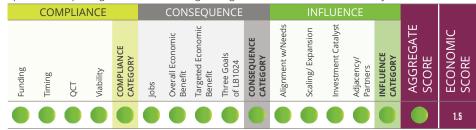
- · Launch or scale a business
- Financial training
- Wealth building
- · Home ownership

Another common request received by the Carver team is for space to house a start-up business. Members of the Carver leadership team consistently field inquiries regarding the need for office and meeting space.

The Carver Legacy Accelerator space will be run by SMB Enterprises/Revive and DreamBusiness in partnership with other organizations and small businesses. It will provide an opportunity for these businesses to co-locate and participate in start-up and scale-up accelerators. It will help meet specific needs identified by providing more space than what is available at the current Carver Building.

The Carver team also recognizes a community need for a drive up ITM/ATM in the 24th and Lake area. Because the Carver currently does not have space for the ITM/ ATM near its current building, the team has identified 2 potential locations in the vicinity. The primary location and the northwest corner of 25th and Lake.

The plan for building one is a ground floor drive up ITM with office/retail. The 2nd floor will include office and meeting space. The 3rd floor will contain room for mixed-income apartments. A parking lot shared with a neighboring business will be an added amenity.





2416 N 22nd Street, Omaha, NE 68110

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$3,000,000**

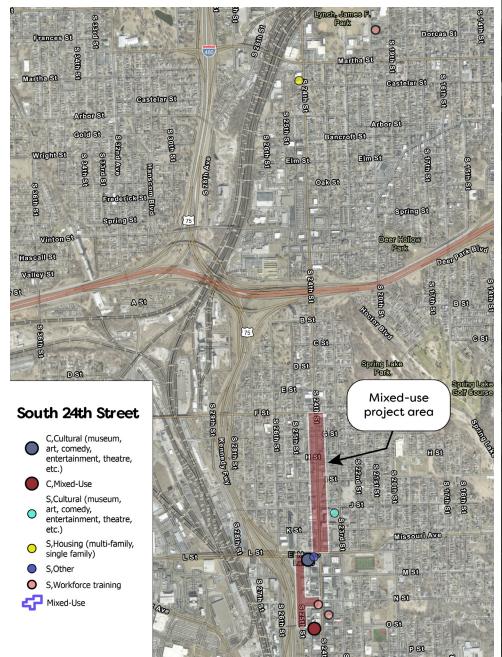
#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Celebration of Life Mortuary & Crematory will offer comprehensive services to bereaved family in the Omaha metro area. These services will include pre-planning, burial, crematory, emergency freezing, drive thru viewing, written programs/obituary, music programming, pre-planning and culinary. Additionally, there are plans for a banquet hall for repass dinners and receptions for families to receive friends and family without having to prepare or arrange these services at an alternate location. We will offer comprehensive packages for full-service instead of an a la carte fashion. Our vision is to develop and have a one stop facility with exceptional customer service all while taking the preparatory burden and emotional turmoil from the family and loved ones left to make these heartfelt arrangements. We are conceptualizing this location to become a location which will provide ease, professionalism, multi-services all while giving thought to socio economic constraints, diversity and understanding to the bereaved clients. A faith centered organization centered in North Omaha where there is no full-service mortuary of its kind; that understands the cultural differences of varied ethnicities. Our comprehensive vision is to also offer after care services such as grief counseling which will enable families to resume their lives while healing from the loss of family and building of mental health while mourning. This additional concept and service will add additional employment opportunities in the Omaha area. We plan to staff those well experienced in the industry while providing the opportunity for internships and development to those who desire to assist families through these difficult times and build long lasting employment in the various areas of service offered. We further see this business being a community partner by offering internships to those students studying mortuary sciences, graphic design, management and pastoral care with partnerships at the local colleges, universities and community colleges in our area. There is a need for this type of business in North Omaha but also there is a need to understand the cultural diversities which accompany bereaved families whose expectations concerning services are not well met at other facilities.

COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE	INFLUENCE	
Funding Timing QCT Viability <b>COMPLANCE</b> CATEGORY	Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 <b>CONSEQUENCE</b> CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners <b>INFLUENCE</b>	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			3.1



#### Figure 13. South 24th Street Geographic Area of Focus Map



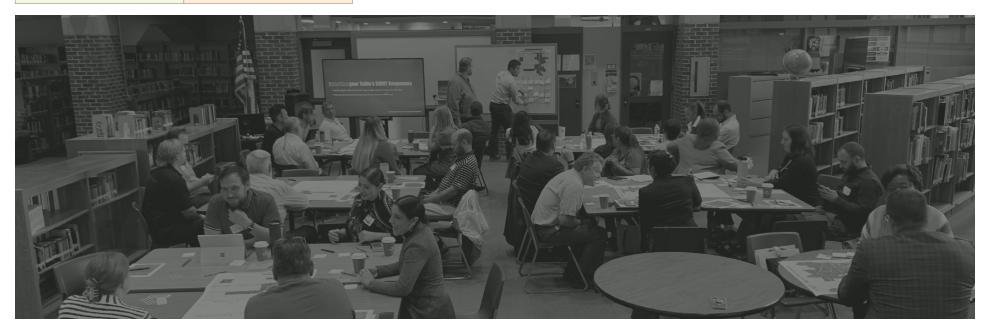


#### TABLE 5. South 24th Street Geographic Area of Focus

ID #	ORGANIZATION	TITLE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	GRANT REQUEST	RECOMMENDED FUNDING
79	Southside Redevelopment Corporation, DBA Canopy South	Adelante II South Omaha Project (La Plaza de la Raza)	\$94,531,144.00	\$94,531,144.00	\$25,000,000.00
241	El Museo Latino	Elevating the Tradition / Elevando la Tradición – El Museo Latino	\$13,285,724.00	\$9,000,000.00	\$9,000,000.00
16	Omaha Public Schools Foundation	South Omaha Education and Community Center at South High School	\$28,000,000.00	\$15,000,000.00	\$0
32	Economic Empowerment Center dba Lending Link	Small Business and Homeowner Grant Program	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$0
51	Project Houseworks	Project Houseworks' Building Communities Proposal	\$24,962,600.00	\$4,140,500.00	\$0
150	Midlands Latino Community Development Corporation	Entrepreneurship Training for Latinos in Omaha	\$1,996,685.00	\$1,996,685.00	\$0
177	Pelshaw Group Inc dba THE HUB BUSINESS & TRAINING CENTER	The Hub Business & Training Center	\$13,205,768.00	\$10,386,017.00	\$0
Total			\$180,981,921.00	\$140,054,346.00	\$34,000,000.00

Catalyst Proposals

Supplemental Proposals





See attached exhibits.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$94,531,144**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Canopy South in partnership with the Latino Economic Development Council plans to undertake a collective project, which includes: updating the Plaza de la Raza physical space, building mixed-income housing, building a dedicated parking structure, increasing retail space and support for small businesses, building a new community/business development center, repairing and expanding 24th street from F to Q Streets, and improving the viability of 25th street.

As a result, South Omaha will benefit from expertise in public education, business development, healthy living and well-being, safe and reliable transportation, and increased commerce.

This project will significantly, and positively impact South Omaha for generations to come.

# **#241** ELEVATING THE TRADITION / ELEVANDO LA TRADICIÓN - EL MUSEO LATINO

This project's focus is the revitalization of the historic building that currently serves as the home of El Museo Latino, since 1997. Located at 4701 S 25th Street in Omaha, NE, the building was built in 1886, then rebuilt in 1940, and has served many purposes, including the original site of South High School and Polish Home Society. The property was officially added to the National Register of Historic Places in November 2015.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$9,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

El Museo Latino's Elevating the Tradition / Elevando la Tradición capital campaign will renovate, expand, and reconfigure the El Museo Latino (EML) museum located at 4701 S 25th Street in Omaha, built in 1898 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2015. This will meet rising cultural demands in the immediate community of South Omaha, the larger Omaha metropolitan area, and the Great Plains region.

The current usable space in the museum is 18,000 sq. feet and the project will double its usable space to 39,000 sq. feet. The current space has received no significant updates except for minor repairs and ongoing facility maintenance since 2000 when the red tile roof was repaired and replaced, an elevator was installed, an accessible ramp to the Lower-Level entry in the back of the building and updated the north restrooms. El Museo Latino has presented and exhibited thousands of works of art, hundreds of installations, and countless hours of performances and community events in spaces that were modified only slightly from their original iteration in the 20th century when the property at 4701 S 25th Street was known as the Polish Home.

This renovation and reconfiguration of EML will provide additional classroom spaces, an art library, artist studios, and dedicated collection storage and prep area. Other additions will be a family restroom, and accessible restrooms. The exterior, the historic building will be restored, point-tucked, waterproofed and energy efficient windows will be added. The outdoor green space will be regraded, drainage system installed, trees, shrubs, and flowers will be planted, and outdoor lighting will be added along with a performance area.

The renovation and expansion will preserve the historic building which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 2015 and will create 4-8 new FT positions at the museum after the completion of the project. During the final design phase of the project, 4 positions will be filled at Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture, 3-6 positions across the different areas of Engineering and the Construction phase will employ 90-100 construction jobs, in a variety of trades and project management.

	COMPLIANCE							ENCE			INF		<b>ICE</b>			
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																1.1



# **#16 SOUTH OMAHA EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER AT SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL**

4519 South 24th Street. It will be a two-story addition, plus a basement, to the existing athletic facility on the south end of the school. The project will create a monumental entrance for community visitors for athletics and the arts. The design celebrates the historical nature of South High School while securing its legacy for the future.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$15,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

This new center will feature a highly visible dramatic facade which will open into a commons area perfect for community and school gatherings, events in the studio theatre, exhibits at the art gallery or home athletic events. This ensures that all students invested in the arts can fully participate and succeed. It solidifies South High School's committment to community investment by providing facilities and programs to benefit the vibrant South Omaha neighborhood. This new center will expand community partnerships with leading arts organizations around the region, will create new job opportunities in education in the fine and performing arts. The facility will be located at the south end of the school near the corner of 24th and L Streets. No existing businesses will be affected. Wells Fargo located at 24th and L Street has offered parking for all events. (See timeline below)

# **#32** SMALL BUSINESS AND HOMEOWNER GRANT PROGRAM

Lending Link's office is located in South Omaha at 4706 S 24th St. Omaha, NE 68107. This is where the grants will be disbursed, and technical assistance will be offered. The small business owners and homeowners who receive grants through this program will be required to be physically located in South Omaha within a Qualified Census Tract.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$5,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Lending Link is respectfully requesting funding in the amount of \$5,000,000 to support the provision of grants to small business owners and homeowners who reside in a South Omaha qualified census tract. The individuals served by Lending Link are a part of a population that often falls victim to the predatory business model of online payday lenders, pawn shops, and predatory local lenders in an industry that has a long history of exploiting the poor, particularly minorities and immigrants. Since payday lenders are no longer allowed to operate in Nebraska, individuals seeking financial help turn to pawn shops, predatory street lenders, or go to a payday lender in lowa, where the practice is still allowed. Payday lenders target individuals who are often a part of a minority population and have lower levels of education. Since they are the sole providers for their families, single parents are especially vulnerable to their tactics when an emergency arises.

The grants provided through this program will support individuals and businesses in some of Omaha's most economically disadvantaged communities and decrease the dependence on payday lenders, while increasing self-sufficiency and economic growth. Small business owners receiving grant funds must be sole proprietorships or one-member LLCs, and homeowners who are eligible for the grant program must be using the funds to renovate their home. Landlords will not be eligible for grant dollars. Lending Link estimates that 180 grants will be provided, at an average of \$25,000 each. All grantees must agree to controlled disbursements, where Lending Link reviews all pending disbursements. Lending Link will also offer financial education and technical assistance to business owners or homeowners. This assistance will be provided one-on-one and teach program participants about budgeting, eliminating debt, credit, and managing expenses. The agency will dedicate three full-time employees to managing grant disbursements and providing financial education and technical assistance to grantees. Grantees will be required to meet with Lending Link staff for coaching and to develop a financial plan to be carried out over the course of the individual's grant cycle. Grants will be disbursed throughout the grant period, commencing in 2023.

	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE			CON	SEQU	ENCE			INF		NCE			
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																2.23

	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE			CON	SEQU	ENCE			INF		<b>ICE</b>				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	sqof	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE	
																3.6	



## PROJECT HOUSEWORKS' BUILDING COMMUNITIES PROPOSAL

Project Houseworks is targeting its current location at 2316 S. 24th Street as the site for the capital project. It is in a QCT. If this does not work we will target another site in or adjacent to a QCT. Sites for the Home Affordability Program depend upon market availability but will focus on sites in or adjacent to a QCT.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$4,140,500**



#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Project Houseworks' economic recovery response to the COVID-19 pandemic targets the resultant affordable housing crisis. By expanding programming the organization already has in place, Project Houseworks can accelerate plans from its existing 2022-2024 Business Plan. Strategies:

1. expand Home Affordability Program to connect more LMI homebuyers with quality affordable homeownership by adding new construction to the existing PRR model;

2. expand Workforce Development Program by adding staffing capacity to serve more youths and work with partners like Bryan High School and Latino Center of the Midlands to use Home Affordability Program sites for paid construction internships/work experiences;

3. expand Project Houseworks' infrastructure and enhance a QCT site with new facilities to house staff, vehicle fleet, tools/supplies, and community resources.

4. expand Senior Repair Program's free owner-occupied repairs model by extending services to immigrants and refugees (under separated funding).

5. expand supportive services to homeowners and homebuyers. including but not limited to, homebuyer and financial education and assistance, legal assistance, et al .

Locations are prioritized by Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) in Douglas and Sarpy Counties, market availability, and feasibility. Homebuyers must be 120% AMI or below, present a certificate of completion of 8+ hours of HUD-approved homebuyer counseling education, and meet lender approval requirements. QCTs contain 50% of properties slated for resale in 2022 and it is anticipated that this pattern will continue.

A detailed timeline shows all funds expended by July 2026. By the end of Y1, ten affordable housing units will be sold to LMI homebuyers who have completed homebuyer counseling education and 8 interns will participate in paid construction work experiences. Under separate funding, 165 low-income homeowners will receive free home repairs/modifications; Y2 we will sell 14 affordable housing units and provide 14 paid construction internships; while 165 low-income homeowners will receive free home repairs under non LB1024 funding. Y3 we will sell 24 affordable housing units; provide 20 paid construction internships; and complete the renovation of new facilities and community space for Project Houseworks affordable housing and workforce development activities. Under separate funding in Y3 we will serve 200 low-income homeowners with free home repairs/modifications.



## **#150** ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING FOR LATINOS IN OMAHA

Address 1: Childcare Training Center and offices, located at 4923 South 24th Street, Suite 201, Omaha (2,200 sq ft)

Address 2: Training Facility for Financial Stability and Accelerator Entrepreneurship programs, located at 2401 N. Street, Omaha (2,000 sq ft)

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$1,996,685**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

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U MLCDC seeks funding to renovate two facilities on 24th Street in South Omaha to expand its programming to Latinx residents. These sites will be used to deliver MLCDC's Financial Stability program, Accelerator Entrepreneurship program, and childcare certification in Spanish to approximately 378 individuals over the next three years.

Renovations—MLCDC will renovate a 2,000-square-foot space at 2401 N. Street to expand onsite and remote delivery of classes for its Financial Stability and Accelerator Entrepreneurship programs. MLCDC also seeks funding to renovate its existing 2,200-square-foot headquarters to transform this space into a dedicated childcare training center. At this location, MLCDC will prepare and certify childcare workers to deliver culturally affirming care to Latino children. Renovations will take place by December 31, 2023 and programming will be delivered from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025.





1920 Dorcas which contains about 47,000 SF of underutilized warehouse and office improvements on an industrially zoned site containing around 1.6 acres. It enjoys easy access to I-480 and I-80, and well as the Downtown and South Omaha.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,386,017**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

THE HUB is a proposed small business hub and training center serving covid-impacted and disadvantaged individuals and businesses; specifically supporting and training subcontractors, construction trades, consultants, makers, artists, and self-employed people to grow their businesses and create jobs.

Using the successful model of the Hot Shops THE HUB proposes to redevelop 1920 Dorcas into at least 100 separate rental bays used by member subcontractors, businesses, makers, and artists. Bays will range from 100-5,000 SF +/- with flexibility to upsize or downsize space. There is ample parking and outdoor storage space.

THE HUB will provide:

- Administrative support (mail & logistical support, bookkeeping, operations support, social media support, graphic design).

Industrial Training Center

- Tools and equipment to loan/rent: trailers, ladders, scaffolding, lift, concrete tools, metalworking and woodworking tools, welders, stone and tile tools, 3-D printer, plan plotters and printers, and more.

- Staging space
- Wood and metal workshops
- Flex storage inside
- Meeting rooms
- Photo/video/audio studio
- Printing and shipping center
- Breakroom
- Gallery to sell member's wares
- Mentoring
- Estimating Services
- Advertising and promotion

	CON	/IPLIA	NCE			CON	SEQU	ENCE			INF		<b>ICE</b>			
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3.5

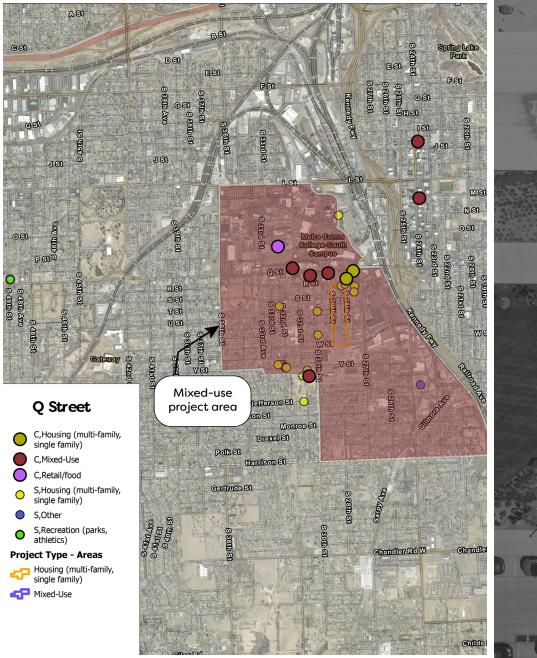
- Monthly breakfast networking and training events.
- One-on-one business coaching and mentoring.
- On site U-haul truck rental service
- COMMUNITY.

THE HUB has partnered with Reconnect Success Inc to provide construction job training. Unions and private companies can use the training facility to aid in recruiting and training workers for new construction jobs. Those trained can then be hired by companies in THE HUB, or by private companies we partner with such as McCarthy & Weitz.

The Hub Gallery supports job creation and will sell wares of HUB members.

THE HUB will be an ongoing source of new jobs, projected to be a minimum of 350 new jobs within the 5-year program period, and operational within 18 months of the grant allocation. Job creation will be tracked through the Training Center attendees, and annual reporting required by businesses operating out of the shops and/or offices of the HUB.

#### Figure 14. Q Street Geographic Area of Focus Map





#### TABLE 6. Q Street Geographic Area of Focus

ID #	ORGANIZATION	TITLE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	GRANT REQUEST	RECOMMENDED FUNDING
11	Midwest Maintenance Co., Inc. & Midwest Maintenance Realty LLC	Q Metro	\$40,000,000.00	\$35,000,000.00	\$7,500,000.00
56	Southside Redevelopment Corporation, DBA Canopy South	Q Street Corridor Economic Recovery Partnership	\$84,917,811.00	\$66,011,655.00	\$39,000,000.00
197	Stephen Center (North Omaha expansion)	Stephen Center Expansion	\$44,739,500.00	\$22,240,900.00	\$10,000,000.00
219	Partnership between three for-profits and one non-profit organization: No More Empty Pots, Community Investments Opportunities LLC (CIO), Collective Development, and 3 Amigas	Multi-pronged Community Economic Development Project in South Omaha	\$22,600,000.00	\$9,300,000.00	\$5,800,000.00
52	Kids Can Community Center	Kids Can Community Athletic Field	\$1,821,375.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$0
116	Canopy South	Southside Terrace - Indian Hill Transformation Plan	\$279,679,052.00	\$24,250,001.00	\$0
193	El Toro Plaza	El Toro Plaza	\$9,052,000.00	\$9,052,000.00	\$0
Total			\$482,809,738.00	\$167,354,556.00	\$62,300,000.00

Catalyst Proposals

Supplemental Proposals





approximate is 27 and Q to 29 and Q to R

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$35,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

We are committed to the revitalizing of Q street as a major commercial corridor. We are committed to the re-development and improvement of Southside Terrace and Indian Hill neighborhoods in South Omaha effected by the pandemic alongside and in collaboration and support of Canopy South & the Q Street corridor revitalization partnership.

Durning the pandemic Midwest Maintenance Co lost nearly 75% of its revenue and Midwest Maintenance Realty halted all development projects. We have been focusing on regaining MM business and are finally starting to recover. This grant opportunity will help MMR get back on track with our development plans.

Our first phase consists of a new headquarters building where Midwest Maintenance Co would be housed. It will be a five story mixed-use facility with storefronts on the main level, some underground or main level parking, office space on second and third levels, and market rate or affordable housing apartments above. The height of the building would have nice city views. Our current facility at 29 & Q, will be converted to a shared office space for entrepreneurs & start up companies to share conference and break rooms, reception areas, etc. while still having private office space. The third phase would be to add restaurants, store space and community gathering hubs on other properties we own.

## **#56** Q STREET CORRIDOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY PARTNERSHIP

An Impact Map illustrating the geographic focus of this proposal can be found on Page 5 of Attachment A: Consolidated Q Street Corridor Economic Recovery Partnership Application.

**REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$66,011,655** 

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION



The projects in this application collectively address all LB1024 funding goals and priority community needs. All eight projects will be 100% complete by July 2026.

Canopy South: Community Investment Trust - \$543,160

Omaha's first Community Investment Trust will support economic mobility and wealth creation by inviting residents to invest in a low-risk commercial property, with annual dividends of 6-8%.

Canopy South: EPIC at Upland Park - \$144,250

EPIC will provide free public Wi-Fi in a neighborhood that has historically experienced disenfranchisement and suffered from the Digital Divide.

Canopy South: Q Street Multimodal Improvements - \$7,680,083

Transforming Q Street into a commercial corridor and business district through a road diet, a 10' multi-use trail along Q Street, an 8' tree lawn, consolidated utilities, and additional parking.

Front Porch Investments: Home Equity Loan Program - \$1,885,000

A revolving home equity loan fund will provide approximately 60, twenty-year, 0% interest loans for homeowners along the Q Street corridor for home repairs or improvements to build wealth and improve community vibrancy.

Girls Inc.: New South Omaha Center - \$20,000,000

A new center will provide workforce development, health and youth development to girls and families living along the Q Street Corridor. Four times larger than the current center, it will support more afterschool and summer programming.

Latino Center of the Midlands: HQ Renovation: Powering Workforce Development and Community Health - \$4,959,162

Rehabilitation of the aging headquarters will include restoration and preservation of the exterior, a new elevator for accessibility, roof and HVAC replacement, and other exterior and interior renovations.

One World Community Health Center: Healthcare Workforce Training Center -- \$17,000,000

A three-story, 24,000 square foot building will include expanded behavioral health services and a health workforce training center. Renovation of 102 units of affordable housing in the Livestock Exchange Building will promote safety and dignity.

Simple Foundation: All Building Starts With A Foundation - \$13,800,000

Renovation of unoccupied former Southside LaFerne Williams YMCA to offer year-round programming and community supports including youth athletics, recreation, childcare, and more.

See Attachment A: Consolidated Q Street Corridor Economic Recovery Partnership Application for details.

COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE	INFLUENCE	
Funding Timing QCT Viability COMPLIANCE	CATEGORY Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners <b>INFLUENCE</b>	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			2.47





#### North Omaha

New Construction Campus - 30th & Sorensen Pkwy property has been identified, contract being developed and is located in QCT 60. (3 Buildings)

South Omaha

New Construction of Women/Family Center at 2715 Q Street and is located in QCT 29.

The Stephen Center HERO Building, located at 5217 S 28th Street - Omaha

The HERO building consists of 4 floors, including a basement, which total approximately 24,600 gross square feet. Zoning is R7 (Medium Density Multi-Family Residential). Brief Legal description as "JETTERS ADD LOT 10 BLOCK 12 LOTS 9 & 10 BLOCK 12 100 X 150".

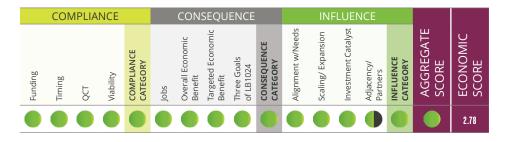
The parcel containing the building is bound by an alley at the north, a church at the east, R Street at the south, and S. 28th Avenue at the west. The site slopes from a low point at the southeast to a high point at the northwest. There is a small parking lot at the east side of the building, which is accessed off the north alley and off R Street. Public sidewalks run along both streets, at the west and south. The alley is approximately 15-feet wide and is paved with concrete. The main entrance is at the east side and is accessed off a private concrete sidewalk that runs the length of the east façade.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$22,240,900**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Stephen Center and Arch Icon Development Corporation are collaborating for a brand-new Stephen Center Campus in North Omaha (QCT) and new construction expansion at the South Omaha (QCT) Stephen Center facilities. The location identified for the North Omaha campus is near 30th and Sorensen Pkwy and will consist of 3 buildings. Building 1.) Emergency Housing Shelter; Building 2.) "HERO" Building serving men and women/families with separate wings; and Building 3.) Administration / Supportive Services Building. The South Omaha development will be new construction of a Women / Family Building to serve separately from the men. The men will stay at the current HERO Building.

Additionally, Arch Icon and Stephen Center of Omaha are partnering for the significant renovation of the current Stephen Center HERO Program Building supportive housing facility. The HERO Building, located at 5217 S 28th Street – Omaha, is for individuals caught in the chronic cycle of homelessness, poverty and substance abuse served by the Stephen Center. The building was originally constructed and funded as a NIFA/LIHTC "CRANE" Development in 2005. HERO consists of (16) Two-Bedroom Units (4 Beds), a small common area with kitchenette and a bathroom. Residential floor amenities include laundry, common



space with a lounge. It has the capacity to serve 32 men and 32 women. The lower levels consist of offices, service rooms, meeting rooms, classrooms, mechanical room, and restrooms. The building has had 16 years of intense wear and tear as a continuous, max-capacity of clients are served. Mental health treatment and supportive services have drastically changed over the years from the original building design. The intent of the extensive renovation is to update the building with modern finishes, repair and replace broken and failing materials, address structural concerns and modify for a more functional floor plan layout. The interior will be made less institutional, to have more of a residential aesthetic. The basement and first floor will be significantly altered, with structural changes and modification of original floor plans and the second and third will be altered as well, in common spaces. The residential units will generally retain their current layouts, but receive all new finishes, built-ins and casework. Exterior replacements, repairs, tuckpointing, windows / doors and painting will be addressed. As well as site-work including refreshing landscaping and hardscaping.

# **#219** MULTI-PRONGED COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN SOUTH OMAHA

The first option to develop the project is a property located at 5025 S 33rd Street, Omaha, NE 68107. CIO has signed a Purchase Agreement with a company with operations in the area. Our first option for the development of our project is this property. The total land area of this property is 5.5 acres and the building has 250,000 square feet. This building in the past was a packing company (Conagra) and then a cold storage business.

If we complete the sale of this property to the purchasing company, we will purchase another property in South Omaha. We will purchase a property to renovate or a bare piece of land to start development of new buildings. One of the big threats for development in South Omaha is the limited land for growth and small parcels. Our real estate agents in the project are concentrated on the task of finding a suitable property for the development of the project. This will be a long-term project and several organizations will participate in purchasing the space that they need for the development of their own projects. Ideally, we are looking for a site of approximately 5 acres.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$9,300,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

**U** Multi-pronged Community Economic Development Project will serve as the site for business development and job creation that will support the economic and social integration, and the financial independence, of low-income families. We are planning to build on the same site a Global Market, a commercial kitchen, a tortilla factory and 75 apartments ranging from 1-3 bedrooms.

Eager to create new opportunities for South Omaha, four organizations came together to stablish a partnership which is working for the transformation, the fundamental change and the long-lasting economic growth of the South Omaha community.

Collective Development is a real estate investment and property management company located in Omaha. Their portfolio consists of 500 primarily residential units that range from single-family houses, duplexes/town homes, apartments, and mixed-use buildings including a brewery.

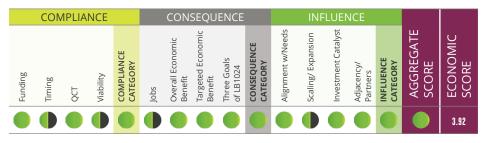
No More Empty Pots strives to support communities in becoming self-sufficient and food secure through collaboration and adherence to their core values. They have built two commercial kitchen food hubs in Omaha.

Community Investment Opportunities (CIO) is leading the Global Market. This market will develop and maintain a place that builds upon the economic, social and cultural assets with the different ethnic communities in order to bring these communities together. People of the Midwest will come to enjoy food, entertainment, shopping and rich cultural experiences

3 Amigas is a food processing company. They have experience in food processing and manufacturing. Elia, Adela and Guillermina are planning to build a tortilla factory at the Global Market.

CIO has a property located at 5025 South 33rd street. The total site area of this property is 5.53 acres with a sf of 246,740. CIO has a purchase agreement with a company. If they do not complete the purchase of this building, our first option would be to build the mixed-use project there.

Total Budget for the first phase of the project will be \$22,600,000.00. The group will fund 59% of this total and they are expecting to apply for a grant for 41% of the total. We will develop the first phase of this project before October 2026.





The field would be on the Kids Can property at 4768 Q Street. The athletic field would be on the southeast portion of the land near 46th Avenue and Q Street.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$1,500,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Kids Can Community Center has an organizational history in Omaha for 115 years. Established in 1908 as Social Settlement Association of Omaha, we rebranded to Kids Can Community Center in 2009 to better reflect our vision and programs.

We are nearing the completion of a new facility that will double our capacity. We would like to take this opportunity to further serve our community with additional outdoor recreational space for our families and community partners to learn, play and compete.

Our proposal is to build an athletic field at our new community center site at 4768 Q Street in Omaha. This would be the only community field in the historic Social Settlement neighborhood of South Omaha. In addition to being fully used during weekdays (for up to 250 children), it would also be available for evenings and weekends for community partners. The field would be able to support both child and adult sports programming.

The proposed space would utilize an artificial turf field for easier maintenance, lighting for early evening events, and accessible restrooms during usage hours. Visitors will also have an adjacent parking lot at our center with an ample amount of stalls.

This is the only available space for a field in our surrounding neighborhoods. If built, this would be the only athletic field within a 1.5 mile radius and would complement the offerings at the nearby Hitchcock Park that encompasses baseball, swimming, and skating activities.

This funding comes at a pivotal point in our second century of service to South Omaha. With a new community center to open in 2023 that will double our capacity, this field will greatly improve our overall capabilities to benefit our students, their families, and our beloved South Omaha community that we are proud to have been a part of for 115 years.



# **#116** SOUTHSIDE TERRACE - INDIAN HILL TRANSFORMATION PLAN

TThe transformation plan's target area is located in South Omaha. Southside Terrace itself is located south of Q Street between South 28th and South 30th Streets. R Street is the northern boundary and W Street is the southern boundary. All offsite development locations but one are located nearby. There is one offsite location located in midtown Omaha. Maps of the project sites are included in the attachments.

Southside Terrace has several addresses. These will all be changed when redevelopment occurs; 5317, 5501, and 5701 South 30th Street; Offsite Housing Development locations. Again, these addresses may change after development.; 3030 Upland Parkway; 2510 South 61st Street and 2511 South 61st Avenue (Note that this site is not located in a QCT, but is included for reference); 5408 South 32nd Street; 3202 through 3310 Y Street; 5305 South 28th Street, 2713 R Street, and 5322 South 27th Street; Community Impact Projects; 3031 Upland Parkway; Upland Park is 3104 Jefferson; Other locations may be selected based on availability and need.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$24,250,001**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

This proposal supports the redevelopment of the Southside Terrace - Indian Hill Neighborhood which is located near South 30th and Q Streets. The primary focus of this effort is to redevelop the century-old Southside Terrace Garden Apartments into a vibrant mixed-income housing development. Eight housing phases are proposed at this time, some on site and others off-site, which will effectively triple the number of households living in this area. Some of the buildings have a purely residential use while others will have a mixed use that will provide professional or retail sapce.

While Southside Terrace is indeed the focus of the proposal, the surrounding Indian Hill neighborhood will also receive support through improved infrastructure and neighborhood beautification.

The redevelopment of Southside Terrace has been discussed and planned for years, but with the award of a \$50 million Choice Neighborhood Implementation grant from HUD, the time for redevelopment is now. LB 1024 funds will ensure the redevelopment and revitalization efforts start strong and are completed quickly which will reduce the amount of time the neighborhood is impacted by construction activities. LB 1024 funds will also help leverage other needed funding sources. Our funding request will already leverage nearly \$6 for every \$1 of LB 1024 funds, and will likely leverage close to \$8 when all is said and done.

This transformation effort is in alignment with community needs. It is in alignment with community visions. It is in alignment with the priorities presented in LB 1024. The effort is a once in a century opportunity to invest in the South Omaha community.



This location is 2405 Z Street, Omaha, Nebraska. The site is an approximate five acre location that housed a packing plant and a leather facility for years. The last known use is approximately 30 plus years ago - and thereafter the location has been used for storage. The monstrosity of a building had deteriorated to such an extent that rehabilitation of the structure was impossible. We made the decision to remove the building and started work on demolition. The site is currently ready for El Toro Plaza!

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$9,052,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

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Creating generational wealth for an underserved section of South Omaha requires resources that historically have not been available. This exciting opportunity fits the concepts of El Toro Plaza - a project predicated on rehabilitating existing real estate. El Toro Plaza is a 30 tenant business hub with a centralized conference center, loading docks, and a plethora of parking.

Z End operating as El Toro Plaza, purchased 2405 Z Street in South Omaha in 2017 and immediately commenced work. The site consists of approximately five acres. This abandoned structure attracted vandals, gangs and was used as a dumping site. The structure had been vacant for decades and served as an eyesore for the proud community members who vocalized their disdain for the property.

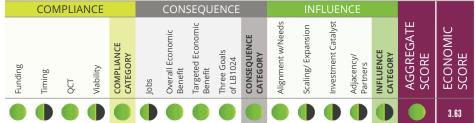
The possibility of utilizing funds to expand what has been started folds neatly into boundless generational opportunities.

The former packing house employed numerous people in South Omaha. We intend to restore employment to the area by first utilizing South Omaha's construction talent and then providing that talent with a work-space to expand their own business. El Toro will include a business complex providing commercial/industrial bays for those that need space. It will include a common area that houses a kitchen and conference room. El Toro Plaza intends to collaborate with South Omaha organizations to offer bi-lingual professional programs on site. The conference areas will provide an essential meeting space conducive to expansion and partnerships that will be fostered in this location.

Each bay will have offices, restrooms and utilities. The construction includes non-load bearing walls in the interior that are removable to allow each business space to expand relative to their needs. The exterior walls will be constructed with 8-inch concrete providing security and sustainability.

Currently, the opportunity to lease a business space in South Omaha is 1.9% (See attached Industrial South Omaha Submarket Report). The need is clear - and we are in the perfect position to IMMEDIATELY fill the need with a parcel that sits ready to build the future for the citizens of South Omaha.





#### TABLE 7. Proposals Outside of Geographic Focus Area

*Table 7* includes a list of additional proposals that scored well but do not fall into any of the four concentrated areas of proposals identified above.

ID #	ORGANIZATION	TITLE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	GRANT REQUEST	RECOMMENDED Funding
12	Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, Inc.	HFHO Affordable Housing Project	\$2,915,200.00	\$15,000,000.00	\$0
14	Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, Inc.	HFHO Bluestem Development Project	\$74,388,046.00	\$20,000,000.00	\$0
40	Youth Emergency Services (YES)	YES Residential Campus Project	\$28,993,067.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$0
53	Front Porch Investments	Greenlining Fund for Mortgage Program and Property Tax Relief Pilot	\$100,000,000.00	\$12,799,000.00	\$0
86	75 North Revitalization Corp ("75 North")	North 30th Street Transformation Plan	\$249,323,064.00	\$28,585,000.00	\$0
113	Terence Crawford	30th and Ruggles	\$12,000,000.00	\$6,000,000.00	\$0
117	Omaha Data Science	Scholarships to Diversity NE's Tech Workforce	\$2,875,702.00	\$2,875,702.00	\$0
129	InCOMMON Community Development	The Poppleton	\$32,416,391.00	\$20,157,720.00	\$0
201	Webster Rehab, LLC (on behalf of White Lotus Group)	1114 Florence Flex Workspace	\$8,866,592.00	\$3,968,856.00	\$0
227	Black Men United	Kumani Economic Empowerment Center	\$5,900,000.00	\$4,200,000.00	\$0
258	PPRP Innovations	Public Health Innvoation Ecosystem	\$25,227,100.00	\$9,104,938.00	\$0
Total			\$542,905,162.00	\$132,691,216.00	\$0





This project will take place in North and South Omaha, primarily in focus neighborhoods, all of which are in QCTs. Any new construction homes will be on infill lots in these neighborhoods, as will all properties to be renovated. Maps of these focus neighborhoods have been included as Attachment C.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$2,800,000**

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#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

HFHO requests \$2,800,000 to support its Affordable Housing Project. This investment will result in the rehabilitation and construction of a total of ten homes in Qualified Census Tracts in North and South Omaha at the cost of \$280,000 for each completed unit, including the lot or house acquisition. HFHO is requesting the flexibility to produce the ten affordable housing units using a mix of rehabilitated homes and new construction units. We feel this will best position us to complete the project within budget and on time should the housing market heat up again, and house prices increase to a level that would make rehabilitation too costly.

Acquisition of the properties and houses would begin immediately upon funding award, and all houses would be built or rehabilitated by December 31, 2024. HFHO will utilize local subcontractors to build or rehabilitate these units whenever possible and will seek out local suppliers for project materials and lumber. Upon completion, the homes will be sold to families who have completed HFHO's Almost Home mortgage-readiness and housing counseling program. In order to qualify to purchase these homes through an affordable Habitat mortgage loan, families must have incomes between 50-80% of the area median income (AMI).

## **#14** HFHO BLUESTEM DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Bluestem Prairie I is located at 6506 N 51st Plaza, between N. 51st Ct., Mary Plaza, and Redick Ave.

Bluestem Prairie II will be located at 4966 Newport Ave. on the former site of Scatterjoy Acres.

Both locations are within Qualified Census Tracts and a map has been provided, along with site plans and renderings as Attachment C. Evidence of site control has been included as Attachment F, and an environmental review of Bluestem I has been uploaded as Attachment G.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$20,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

HFHO is requesting \$20m in LB1024 support for its two Bluestem developments in North Omaha. Of the \$20m, \$12m would be used for site preparation, utilities, and infrastructure for both Bluestem I and II. \$1.6m will be used to purchase land, which will become Bluestem II. HFHO has an executed purchase agreement for this property. The remaining \$6m would fund 22 affordable housing units in Bluestem I.

Bluestem I will be a mixed-income development located at 50th and Redick, with 85 units, including 20 2-bedroom empty-nester villas and 65 single-family homes. The single-family homes will be 3-5 bedrooms, dependent on family size, with some accessory dwelling units to allow multiple generations to cohabitate. Initial tree removal and demolition have already been completed, and HFHO will move forward with site preparation, infrastructure, and utilities in Fall 2022. Basement excavation for the homes will begin in 2022, with construction kicking off in early 2023. As part of this project, HFHO is renovating and expanding the adjacent Myott Park, installing a multi-use community park, including recreational fields, playground equipment, sports courts, and paved walking trails through the new greenspace that will connect to nearby neighborhoods. Bluestem I, with the park and 85 homes, will be complete by the end of 2024.

Bluestem II will follow on the heels of Bluestem I, allowing HFHO to transform a large swath of undeveloped land southwest of Forest Lawn, just north of Newport Ave, formerly known as Scatterjoy Acres. HFHO will begin site and infrastructure work on Bluestem II in 2023, utilizing the proximity of its crews to work simultaneously on both projects. This blank slate will require significant utility and infrastructure work as well as street installation. Site preparation and infrastructure will complete by the end of 2024, with only a small amount of utility and paving to be completed in early 2025. 120 new single-family units will be constructed as part of Bluestem II, with the development projecting to complete by the end of 2026. Funds granted through LB1024 will be obligated by 12/31/2024 with most, if not all, funds spent prior to that date.







After project completion, the YES administrative offices and Street Outreach Program will occupy the former OHA administrative office building, located at 536 South 27th Street, Omaha, NE 68105. The building has been vacant for seven years. The housing wing of the YES Residential Campus Project will be contained in a new four-story structure, to be to be located between 27th and 28th Streets, north of St. Mary's Avenue in Omaha. The new wing will be attached as an addition to the existing OHA building. The need for affordable units within the neighborhood that this campus will occupy is extremely high. By 2023, an estimated 225 homeless youth households, 16 to 21 years of age, will reside in the Omaha-Council Bluffs MSA. This will include an estimated 198 single person youth households and 27 homeless youth households with children.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$10,000,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The YES Residential Campus Project will bring all of the organization's services to a single location within a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) South Omaha. The project will involve a renovation and addition to the former Omaha Housing Authority (OHA) administrative office building, located at 536 South 27th Street, which has been vacant for seven years. YES is requesting \$10,000,000 in Economic Recovery Act funding for this project. Funds will specifically cover construction costs associated with the 16-bed Emergency Shelter, Teaching Kitchen, Street Outreach Center, Job Readiness, community mental health services space, and administrative offices to support the campus. Planning and fundraising for this project began in April of 2021 and construction will be completed in November of 2024, with full occupancy of the YES Residential Campus by January of 2025.

This project will allow us to expand our capacity and increase the number of youth served by 300%. Currently, YES' services are spread throughout the Omaha Metro with all programs separate from one another. This not only creates the ongoing expense of maintaining and staffing seven different locations including the administrative offices, but also tremendous inefficiencies in the delivery of these services. The brand-new housing will provide a total of 56 housing units; 28 Transitional Living Program units, 16 Emergency Shelter units, and 12 Maternity Group Home units. The YES administrative offices and Street Outreach Program will occupy the rehabilitated OHA building. The renovated portion of the campus will also include a community space with washers and dryers, showers, a Teaching Kitchen, and a clothing and food pantry. Additionally, the renovated wing will house YES' Job Readiness Program, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and programs, services, and spaces will be available and accessible to youth residing in the housing wing as well as to youth living off-campus in need of services. At this unified campus, YES will be able to increase physical safety and security, streamline operations, and continue their mission of serving homeless and near-homeless youth.

**#53** GREENLINING FUND MORTGAGE PROGRAM AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PILOT

Qualified Census tracts identified as priorities for the Economic Recovery Act and that also qualify as formerly redlined include the following:

Census Tracts 29, 32, 33, 20, 12, 24, 21, 22, 53, 16, 11, 7, 8, 31

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$12,799,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

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U Through its nascent Greenlining Fund ("The Fund"), Front Porch Investments ("Front Porch") will support homeownership through a "purchase to payoff" model. The Fund aims to increase homeownership, support current homeowners, and pilot displacement prevention strategies for formerly redlined census tracts in partnership with community residents.

The "purchase" phase will support first mortgages at a time when interest rates are rapidly increasing, providing an opportunity for interested and eligible residents to achieve homeownership. The "payoff" phase includes home equity loans and property tax relief to ensure long-time residents can remain in their homes. This effort reinvests and directs resources to support homeownership in neighborhoods that have experienced historical disinvestment from redlining or other systemic disadvantages.

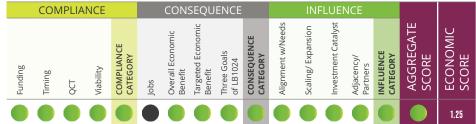
While redlining left long-lasting effects, Eastern Omaha (both North and South) is enjoying a renaissance, promising increased opportunity and quality of life. However, such investment also threatens to displace many longtime residents. This proposal will fund programs to increase homeownership rates and support housing stability for formerly redlined census tracts in alignment with qualified census tracts.

Through partnership with housing supportive nonprofits, Front Porch will market 2% fixed interest mortgages to increase opportunities for homeownership and provide property tax relief through an exploratory pilot program. Program partners and detailed eligibility criteria will be determined by a Community Advisory Committee ("CAC") of South and North Omaha neighborhood residents, bringing a strong equity lens to this effort.

Through the initial 33 -month pilot, we will document and learn from opportunities to scale this work beyond the initial targeted neighborhoods. Success will be measured not solely by number of closed loans, but also how many households are reached with marketing and loan product information, and number of pre-applications completed by interested homeowners.

In addition, the property tax relief pilot will provide stabilizing support for some of our community's most vulnerable residents. The pilot will also provide essential data for the CAC in future decision-making in displacement prevention strategies. This data will also support the local and statewide housing advocates participating in a Statewide Housing Plan, including the evaluation of current programs to create better access and more efficiency.







The redevelopment plan target area is located along North 30th Street, bounded by Bristol Street on the north side, and Hamilton Street on the south side. The North Freeway is the eastern boundary and North 33rd Street is the western boundary. The projects submitted for consideration are scattered throughout the target area. A map of the projects in the target area and maps of the individual project locations are included in the attachments.

Multi-Family Residential Rental Projects

Kennedy Square East is located on the north side of Spencer Street between North 28th and North 30th Streets.

Kennedy Square West is located at 3005 North 30th Street.

Davis Ridge is located at 2198 North 31st Street.

**Community Impact Projects** 

The Multi-Use Recreational Facility will be located near North 28th and Spencer Streets.

The Greenhouse at Highlander is located at 2120 North 30th Street.

The former Faith Deliverance Church site is located at 2901 North 30th Street.

The lights along North 30th Street will be installed between Burdette and Spencer Streets.

The Curb Appeal Program will benefit neighbors living along key streets in the area.

Sidewalks will be improved along North 30th Street.

The former Faith Deliverance Church is located at 2901 North 30th Street.

Economic Impact Projects

Highlander IV is located at 2120 North 29th Street

Kennedy Square East is located on the north side of Spencer Street between North 28th and North 30th Streets.

Kennedy Square West is located at 3005 North 30th Street.

Single-Family Residential Homeownership Projects

North 32nd and Corby Streets

North 28th and Charles Streets

North 29th Avenue between Blondo and Burdette Streets

Targeted Demolition Projects

Spencer East is located near North 27th and Bristol Streets.

Freedom Worship Center is located at 3025 Parker Street.

Stage II is located at 3210 North 30th Street.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$28,585,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Since 2011, 75 North and Brinshore Development have teamed up to bring meaningful, impactful change to North 30th Street. In 2019 this partnership expanded to include the Omaha Housing Authority and the City of Omaha The partnership was able to secure a \$25 million Choice Neighborhood Implementation grant and another approximately \$135 million of matching funds to further expand and accelerate activities designed to improve living conditions, quality of life, and educational opportunities for neighborhood residents. This proposal further expands and accelerates activities addressed in the North 30th Street Transformation Plan.

The array of projects presented here fall into five broad categories, which includes Mixed-Income Residential Gap Financing, Community Impact, Local Tenant and Non-Profit Retail Tenant Build Out Fund, Single Family Homeownership Gap Financing, and Targeted Demolition and Site Preparation for Redevelopment.

Mixed-Income Residential Gap Financing includes critical gap funding due to rising construction costs for Kennedy Square East, Kennedy Square West, and Davis Ridge.

Community Impact includes the construction of a Multi-purpose Recreational Facility near Kennedy Square East, gap funding for the Highlander greenhouse, and other neighborhood improvements.

Local Tenant and Non-Profit Retail Tenant Build Out Fund provides financing for improvements by tenants occupying commercial space at Highlander IV, Kennedy Square East, and Kennedy Square West.

Single Family Homeownership Gap Financing provides gap funding due to rising construction costs for affordable and workforce housing at three locations in the target area. Housing locations include along North 28th Avenue between Blondo and Burdette Streets, near North 32nd and Corby Street, and near North 28th and Charles Streets.

Targeted Demolition and Site Preparation for Development provides funding for three sites, Spencer Homes East, the former Stage II lounge, and the former Freedom Worship Center.

These projects, and the North 30th Street Transformation Plan in general, make a transformative and sustainable impact in the target area. They provide hundreds of housing units, economic and recreational opportunities, and will provide dozens of temporary and permanent jobs.





The project site is located on the southeast vacant city block between 29th and 30th, Ruggles to Spaulding street. It is approximately 1.5 acres of land.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$6,000,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

THE SITE IS CURRENTLY A VACANT CITY BLOCK. THERE ARE NO STRUCTURES TO DEMOLISH NOR ANYONE TO DISPLACE. SOME UTILITY LINES WILL NEED TO BE RELOCATED AND A VARIANCE ON ZONING NEEDS TO HAPPEN. WE HAVE HAD A PRE-APP MEETING WITH THE CITY REGARDING THIS PROJECT AND THERE WAS NO RESISTANCE TO THE PROPOSED VARIANCE. The proposed project would include development of the site with a three story, 36unit multiple family residential building with a 48 stall surface parking lot on the western portion of the site and a 12-unit townhouse development on the eastern portion of the site.



Seventy Five North, N. 30th Street, Ste. 200, Omaha, NE 68111 (this is where training will take place; classes also will be livestreamed from this location)

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$2,875,702**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

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The ODSA seeks funding to provide scholarships that will cover the full cost of training individuals to become certified data scientists. Funding will cover administrative expenses to operate the scholarship program, as well as the cost of individual scholarships over a three-year period. The goal is to provide the Omaha metro region's businesses with approximately 240 data scientists by the end of 2025, since industry experts estimate that Nebraska will need a minimum of 500 data scientists over the next five years.

The ODSA will recruit from across the Omaha metro region, but recruitment will focus heavily on lowincome areas in North Omaha, which has a higher poverty level than the rest of the state. We have developed partnerships with Code Black and the Nebraska Tech Collaborative, among others, to reach populations that have historically been underrepresented in data science, such as women and people of color. Black and Hispanic families were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, having lost income, burned through savings, and taken on debt to survive, according to a 2021 report by the University of Nebraska Omaha. Women also lost jobs at a higher rate during the pandemic, and most of the nation's 6.6 million jobs gained since January have gone to men, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

The ODSA scholarship program will provide between 60-90 adults annually with the opportunity to train for a stable, high-paying career with family-friendly hours in less than a year, all while providing local businesses with the data scientists they need to be more competitive in the national and global market. A significant portion of scholarships (at least 75%) will be allocated to women, BIPOC, and low-income individuals. Trainings are offered three times a year and during each session, training takes place twice a week at Seventy Five North, a community center in North Omaha. Classes also will be livestreamed, making training accessible to people without childcare, with disabilities, and without transportation.

	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE			CON	sequ	ENCE			INF	LUEN	<b>ICE</b>			
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
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	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE			CON	SEQU	ENCE			INF		ICE				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE	
																3.5	



The corner of Park & Poppleton, approximately 29th and Park Avenue (1303 Park Avenue; 1310 S 29th. Street; 1306 S 29th Street; Park Avenue; 2911 Poppleton). The location is located in qualified census tract 31055003800.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$20,157,722**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

inCOMMON Community Development is developing the vacant 1.1 acre parcel located at the corner of Park & Poppleton ("The Poppleton") (1303 Park Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68105) into a mixed-use affordable housing and commercial space. The Poppleton will bring 108 units of quality, affordable housing to an area desperately in need of affordable housing stock, as well as over 8,000 square feet of commercial space that will provide jobs for an area in need of job creation. The Poppleton will serve as a platform for a broader, comprehensive community development strategy as the project site is on the same block as inCOMMON's Park Avenue Community Resource Center, and the wide range of programs available there, as well as the soon-to-be opened OneWorld Health clinic. The east building will be a residential LIHTC project with approximately 51 units, all reserved for tenants at or below 100% of AMI, with no less than 40% of units reserved for tenants making 60% AMI or less. inCOMMON will be applying for a LIHTC tax credit allocation for this scope of the project. The west building will be a mixed-use project with approximately 8,000 square feet of commercial space at street level and approximately 57 residential units. The commercial space will be leased to commercial tenants designated as small-disadvantaged businesses (including WOSBs and EDWOSBs). A portion of the project budget will be reserved to provide rent subsidy for up to two years for the commercial tenants to encourage new business developments. inCOMMON will seek new markets tax credit incentives for the west building, as well as TIF and PACE financing structures (for both the east and west buildings). In addition, inCOMMON has soft commitments from two local lenders (American National Bank and Security National Bank) for both construction and permanent financing for both project sites as well as SPARK Capital for additional bridge financing as may be required.



1114 Florence Boulevard

Omaha, NE 68102

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Location is west of Florence Boulevard, east of 20th street, directly adjacent (south) to future CHI Health community kitchen.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$3,968,856**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

U Webster Rehab, LLC, which is wholly owned by White Lotus Group ("WLG"), is requesting an award of funds via the Omaha Economic Recovery Grant to complete its capital stack for renovation and development of the three-story building (the "Omaha Van & Storage Building") at 1114 Florence Boulevard in North Omaha. With its high ceilings and open floor plates, the Omaha Van & Storage Building offers a blank canvas to the North Omaha community, with over 30,000 square feet of developable space. The site is situated between the Muse Apartment Complex to its south and the recently announced CHI Health commercial kitchen to its north, and presents opportunity to add commercial and office use on a major North Omaha thoroughfare.

The Omaha Van and Storage Building, originally constructed in 1888, has held no regular tenant since at least 1991 and is in a state of disrepair. The exterior façade, with its crumbling masonry, mismatched coloring and boarded up windows, hides an even harsher interior filled with evidence of homeless encampments and excessive wear and tear. At the same time, with its all-wood interior framing, the building presents a design feature which is coming back into popularity within the office community.

WLG is off and running in the planning and design stages of this redevelopment. As a part of our capital stack, we have begun the process to utilize federal and state historic tax credits. After receiving unanimous approval from the Omaha Landmark Heritage Preservation Commission and NE State Historic Preservation Board to nominate this building for National Registry Listing, we sent our full application to the National Park Service in September (and expect approval before year end). Additionally, we've confirmed with the City this building sits within the CRA and EBA, making it eligible for 20-year Tax Increment Financing. Finally, WLG has engaged Holland Basham Architects to begin schematic design of the building's renovation.

With an award of the Omaha Economic Recovery Grant, our capital stack will be fully complete, and we'd expect to commence immediately, with a 14-month construction period finishing in the first half of 2024.







BMU's existing property is located on 4200 N 30th St. it is 9000 SF, which includes classroom space, office space, and a warehouse bay.

The new property is located on 1920 Dorcas St. It consists of 33,000 SF of warehouse space, and 8,700 SF of office space.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$4,200,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

U Black Men United will create the Kumani Economic Empowerment Center (KEEC). The results of LB1024 funding will be the development of an entrepreneurship, workforce, and human services ecosystem that creates sustainable economic growth in North Omaha. There are many economic challenges in North Omaha. The two economic needs BMU hears most discussed are the need for living wage job opportunities and the need for more small businesses. BMU will expand or launch new programming in workforce development and entrepreneurship. The Kumani Construction Academy will launch 2023 a 140-hour Nebraska Department of Education-certified course. It will expand its entrepreneurship training and include a commercial kitchen incubator, makers space, co-work space, and high-growth tech entrepreneurship training.

In addition to the key economic challenges, human service and criminal justice system challenges exist. Many in North Omaha struggle with food insecurity, and others face the impact of incarceration. Many of these challenges are connected yet are addressed in a siloed fashion. As a result, families have to jump from program to program. The KEEC will create a network of support that connects these individuals to Black Men United resources, education and training, and a highly connected system of providers.

LB1024 funding will be combined with approximately \$450,000 of annual funding Black Men United receives from other public and private sources. Program work will be done at the current and new facilities. As a result of ARPA funding, we will see an increase in North Omaha residents with living wage jobs, an increase in entrepreneurship, and greater vitality in the community. **#258** PUBLIC HEALTH INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

No location provided

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$9,104,938**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Social determinants of health, or the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, have a substantial impact on an individual's health. In general, individuals with higher incomes and education levels report better health outcomes. Before COVID-19, minority & disadvantaged communities in Nebraska were disproportionately underrepresented and lacking access to resources necessary to reduce disease burden, decrease social determinants of health, & improve quality of health. After COVID 19, the lasting impact of COVID-19 is projected to be experienced the most in communities of color – especially in Nebraska. Before, during, & after COVID-19, state & community health organizations have been ill equipped to sustain successes as they address the complex health threats we face today - including the morbidity and mortality associated with persistent chronic diseases, mental illness, and emerging infectious diseases that will increase as a result of COVID-19.

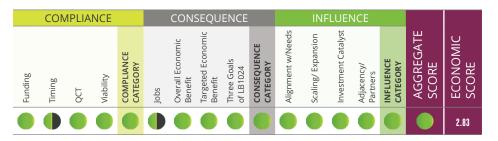
To be better prepared for the current state of minority health & the inevitable next pandemic in Nebraska, we must improve the built environment, broaden and deepen the social safety net, and ensure that everyone has access to the health resources they need in order to flourish. Therefore, we propose the development of a Public Health Innovation Ecosystem. The Ecosystem will focus on these priorities:

• Innovation: Creates a standard of the future of healthcare through a focus on streamlining & enhancing public health practice through the development of technology, &

Ecosystem: Supports cross-collaboration and aligns current social-purpose business ventures to develop economic-driven, public health-based technology & enhancements

The Public Health Innovation Ecosystem is a model that promotes innovation, technology, and collaboration to prepare Nebraska to find solutions together. The aim of the ecosystem is to support disadvantaged communities in Nebraska and support local & statewide goals including increased quality of life and economic health by creating a system that identifies & detects priority public health problems, trains Public Health Outreach Specialists to address the problems, and utilize Public Health Outreach Specialists to develop tangible technological solutions.

With a focus to use technology to eliminate health disparities & increase social determinants of health of the minority & disadvantaged communities of North and South Omaha, our Public Health Innovation Ecosystem can serve as a scalable process for disease prevention and economic sustainability. We forecast our ecosystem can create over 600 Public Health Outreach Specialists jobs, decrease mental illness, chronic disease & social determinants of health, and create organic economic stability for North & South Omaha over the next 10 years.





#### TABLE 8. Small Quick Win Proposals

ID #	ORGANIZATION	TITLE	PROPOSAL TYPE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	GRANT REQUEST	RECOMMENDED Funding
47	Heartland Workforce Solutions	Heartland Workforce Solutions – Connecting People with Opportunities 2.0	Combination of capital project and service/program	\$6,248,967.00	\$620,086.00	\$620,086.00
92	Ital Vital Living	ltal Vital Living Health Hub Expansion	Combination of capital project and service/program	\$1,821,687.00	\$1,851,687.00	\$1,000,000.00
112	Noamin LLC	Noamin Complex	Capital project	\$5,000,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00
118	SAVE Program	Academic Mentoring and Follow Through Program	Service/program	\$401,100.00	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00
154	Midlands Latino Community Development Corporation	Culturally Fluent Financial Education for Refugees	Combination of capital project and service/program	\$832,235.00	\$832,235.00	\$832,235.00
168	Freedomtainmet	Freedomtainment	Combination of capital project and service/program	\$11,500,000.00	\$11,500,000.00	\$500,000.00
172	Prospect Hill Cemetery Historical Site Development Foundation	Prospect Hill Cemetery Revitalization Project	Combination of capital project and service/program	\$1,101,264.00	\$848,925.00	\$848,925.00
190	RADIUS	RADIUS Workforce Development Grant	Service/program	\$3,513,896.31	\$678,545.00	\$678,545.00
196	United Way of the Midlands	JAG Nebraska	Service/program	\$449,000.00	\$448,999.00	\$448,999.00
211	Trauma House of Healing	Trauma House of Healing	Service/program	\$473,000.00	\$473,000.00	\$473,000.00
221		Providing High Quality Early Care and Education in North Omaha	Service/program	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00
222	The Wellbeing Partners	Head to Heart for Youth	Service/program	\$228,397.00	\$209,198.00	\$209,198.00
273	Leading edge Entrepreneur Group, LLC DBA The Business Connectionne	Small Business Education Academy	Service/program	\$60,449.00	\$36,269.00	\$36,269.00
312	The AIM Institute	Strengthening and diversifying Omaha's tech ecosystem	Service/program	\$499,958.17	\$499,958.17	\$499,958.17
Total				\$32,429,953.48	\$18,998,902.17	\$7,147,215.17

### **#47 HEARTLAND WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS - CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH OPPORTUNITIES 2.0**

The two American Job Center Locations are 5752 Ames Ave. and 4425 S. 24 St. These are already determined and are not requested in this proposal.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$620,086**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

The proposal is transformational – augmenting staffing and equipment for the south Omaha affiliate American Job Center opening in March 2023. This supports the partially funded ARPA project funded through the City of Omaha. The project will create fundamental change and long-lasting economic growth as training and talent connection hubs in north and south Omaha. The north QCT location on 5752 Ames Ave will be updated to reflect vibrancy and responsiveness for public workforce development service by replacing old computers in the resource room and computer lab, replace furnishings worn by public use, adding welcoming reception seating, improve Wi-Fi, and add copiers with WIFI printing. We will provide tents for shade during outside job fairs. For the south QCT location on 4425 S. 24 St. HWS will increase staffing estimated for public service estimating high intensity needs. Other furnishing and equipment costs are covered in the City of Omaha APRA award. For both locations we will increase the inspiration and understanding of workforce development by displaying pictures of local employment success stories. Finally, we will contract with Jona Van Deun to facilitate industry stakeholder clarification and illustration of local career pathways for easy understanding, communication, and service connection.

This proposal's combination of modernization efforts and enhanced career pathway connections aggressively pushes forward our ability to serve job seekers and business now and well into the future.

In summary the timeline is as follows:

2023-2024 Functional updates and career pathways clarification - complete

2023-2026 Staffing for South Omaha. Staffing sustainability secured.



2118 North 24th Street

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$1,851,687**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

In the sixties there were neighborhood riots, commercial real estate investments near and along the corridor have been scarce and infrequent. Though some investments have been made on North 24th Street (e.g. Union, Fair Deal, Lake Point etc.), a large portion of the corridor is still characterized by derelict buildings and empty lots. As a result, North 24th Street is home to some of Omaha's poorest residents. The loss of personal revenue through the loss of jobs has impacted small businesses directly in the community, steps away from our location that many black small businesses have closed due to the pandemic in a dire need to rebuild. COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted the black community of North Omaha causing death, job loss leaving the community stagnant and lack of economic growth, hindering the community's ability to grow. North Omaha is feeling the impacts of increased violence resulting from the pandemic, and access to food and mental health services for the most vulnerable residents of North Omaha. Ital will...Prioritize community needs of healthier choices of food and drink and snacks. Our goal is to hire people who experienced unemployment during the pandemic, and promote job growth to build resiliency. By...Providing services and collaborative partnership with other small businesses and organizations in the corridor of North Omaha to directly support the individuals, businesses, and communities most impacted by COVID-19. Then...North Omaha can be transformed, and it will become a more vibrant and resilient community. Our focus is on social economical impact and improving the lives of all North Omaha residents in the community as a whole. We are an all black women business that is looking to expand our business and create job opportunities for our community. Our focus is community well-being. Our vision is to close the gap of food deserts by providing healthier health food choices right in our own neighborhood. As a small business we would like to be part of the recovery plan to revitalize and build a stronger Community of resilience for North Omaha. (see attachment for more in depth)



	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE			CONS	SEQU	ENCE			INF	LUEN	<b>ICE</b>				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE	
																2.8	



1821 North 30th St is the physical location and also a connecting lot 2923 Parker Street. Currently this is vacant land with only a single dilapidated garage on the lot and a concrete slab covering part of the other parcel

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$500,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Location - 1821 North 30th St (30th & Parker). The building will have 4 floors - floor 1 will be commercial space which will provide the community with much needed opportunities for more food options, laundromat services, convenient store, or potential various other types of businesses. Floors 2-4 will be residential apartments/condos comprising of 36 much needed rental units.

Currently, this property is vacant ground with only a slab of concrete where semi trailers are parked. This new building would create a much more attractive presence for the community but would also create job opportunities from the commercial space and provide 36 brand new housing units for the community.



No location provided

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$200,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Students, Activities, Values, Education (SAVE) is a nonprofit organization that strives to connect underserved individuals with opportunities and resources to be successful students and active individuals. With roughly 74.45% of our student population residing in North and South Omaha zip codes, SAVE wants to build up the quality of life within these communities for our students and future students to come. SAVE manages two main programs aligned with our mission: the Academic Mentoring Program and the Follow Through Program. Both programs seek to build positive associations with college campuses and young adults so that our students can envision their opportunities post-graduation, as many identify as first-generation college students. The Academic Mentoring Program is currently serving seven (7) underserved elementary schools and three hundred (300) 3rd-8th graders. SAVE transports students from each school to Creighton University, University of Nebraska - Omaha, Bellevue University, and Metro Community College (North and South Campus) for mentoring with volunteer college students, enriching activities, and campus engagement. In addition to the sessions, each participating student is eligible for financial support and registration help for extracurricular activities in their area of town. The Follow Through Program is designed to follow our AMP graduates through junior and senior high school to provide support, resources, and encouragement for academic success and extracurricular engagement. The students meet with SAVE staff at their prospective school on a bi-weekly basis to discuss any needs, challenges and accomplishments the individual students are experiencing. SAVE strives to level the playing field for the students and give them the opportunity to become well versed individuals in academics but also in their communities.

	CO	ИPLIA	NCE			CON	SEQU	ENCE			INF		ICE			
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																5

	CON	MPLIA	NCE			CON	sequ	ENCE			INF	LUEN	<b>ICE</b>				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE	
																3.75	

# **#154** CULTURALLY FLUENT FINANCIAL EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES

MLCDC proposes to rent and perform minor renovations at 3031 Upland Parkway in Omaha to deliver its programming to refugees. This 1,100-sqft location is close to the Southside Terrace in South Omaha. It can easily be accessed by refugees via public transportation and is within walking distance of several housing complexes that have high populations of refugees.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$832,235**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

MLCDC seeks funding to expands its Financial Stability and Accelerator Entrepreneurship programming to the refugee population. Historically, MLCDC has delivered culturally inclusive financial education and training for small business owners to Latinos, but there is a growing need to provides these services to refugees in the Omaha metro region. MLCDC will rent a facility at 3031 Upland Parkway in South Omaha to expand its programming to refugee residents by 20% per year. The facility will be renovated by Canopy South, but MLCDC will provide furnishings and other small improvements to the space as a tenant. Over the next three years, this site will be used to deliver MLCDC's Financial Stability program to 180 refugees. We also will assist 36 refugees who graduate from that program to develop a business plan to explore the possibility of becoming a small business owner. Finally, we will help launch 13 refugee businesses and provide support for an additional 2 existing small business owners who are refugees.

	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE		CONSEQUENCE						INF					
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3.05





Freedomtainment temporarily offices at 6720 North 30th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68112 in the census tract 62.02, adjacent to the North Omaha qualified census tract #3 (4 blocks to the North). It plans to purchase and renovate a building in the heart of North Omaha, in a qualified census tract with first focus being #11. Targeted areas are between 16th and 24th, and Lake to Ames Street. At this time, the following 2 locations are of interest:

- Omaha Opportunities Industrialization Center (OOIC) 2766 North 24th St., qualified census tract #11.00, Zoned "X". For sale now at \$625,000. 1-story building on 3 acres, 29,000 square feet, opened in 1977 and has been vacant for 7 years (since 2015). The city has determined it to be uninhabitable and the OOIC board is wanting to salvage the building due to its historical context to the community, reported to have trained and placed into gainful employment over 20,000 individuals. The property is class "C" and appears to be eligible for CDBG, Community Development Block Grant funding. This building is adjacent to Brownfields property.
- 2. Hinky Dinky Grocery Store 3025 Parker St., qualified census tract #53.00, Zoned "X". Purchased by Sherwood Foundation (Susie Buffet) thru RH Land Management for \$800,000 (2020) and sits vacant today, nor is publicly listed for sale. It may however, already be pledged for use to 75 North. Freedomtainment has inquired regarding this building with the Sherwood Foundation and is awaiting a meeting to discuss. This building is adjacent to Brownfields property.

The 2021 and 2022 festivals were held at The Malcolm X Memorial Foundation's Outdoor Event Plaza (34th & Evans) in the qualified census tract 53.00. The festival maxed out this space and needs to determine if it will continue to host at this location or re-locate to another eligible option to remain in North Omaha or adjacent. Other recommended sites for consideration include: Miller Park (Qualified Census Tract #3), Kountze Park (Qualified Census Tract #8), Gene Leahy Mall (adjacent, sharing a border with Qualified Census Tract #16 and sits 2 blocks slightly to the south)

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$11,500,000**

#### PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Freedomtainment, Inc, a 501c3 nonprofit serving North Omaha, has a mission to bring awareness about African American culture through Education, Empowerment, and Entertainment activities, showcasing the North Omaha, Nebraska community, its rich history and present-day attributes by expanding access to local, social and business resources. Established in 2020, it has 2 premier community programs:

- Omaha Freedom Festival a celebration of Juneteenth
- Level-up Career Fair & Tailgating Party a workforce development initiative

This grant request is comprised of 2 areas:

1. Enable Freedomtainment to scale and build on its existing programs, create 3 new jobs, and expand services to include mental health/wellness, job support. (\$2.5 million)

2. Identify, purchase and re-develop a building near the 24th Street revitalization area into an event venue (1,000- 1,500 flex seating similar to The Slowdown and The Admiral), appropriate carrying costs for the grant term (2023-2026); filling a gap of North Omaha eligible locations to provide for community assembly to host arts, cultural, education and empowerment activities; adding to the transformational change including safe neighborhood night life options. (\$9 million)

Supporting this grant would create 3 new jobs within the non-profit itself and 10-12 positions needed to support events in the building once open for public/private use. Freedomtainment will headquarter from the building, mitigating its need to rent its existing space and will rent out the facility when not being used for its own programming creating a revenue stream.

The first initiative, to support and scale services, will begin immediately upon grant award. The nonprofit requests \$2,500,000 to create 3 new jobs (Director, Assistant, Marketing Specialist – total \$140,000), and the festival bringing it to a national level with branded performance acts and tourism development (\$500,000/year), workforce career fairs regularly offered (\$40,000/year) and capacity assistance (\$150,000/year). These funds will be expensed across 3 years of operation: 2023, 2024 and 2025 years.

The 2nd initiative, to identify, acquire and re-develop a small venue with 1,000–1,500 flex seating and appropriate for start-up carrying costs during the grant period, is budgeted to be \$9 million (\$5 million building purchase and renovation after consultation with an area architect and developer and reviewing available property in the targeted zone (16th-24th / Lake-Ames) plus \$4 million operating costs). This building would be ready by 2025 and create trickle-forward economic development by creating 10-12 new jobs and impacting the 24th street revitalization zone by providing a place of assembly during the day and create a bountiful night life opportunity. The building would need dedicated parking for 500 vehicles (most attendees will come in groups of 2-4). Ideally, it would like to create roof top seating for private events and build in garage doors where the main floor can open to the outside.





3202 Parker St., Omaha, NE 68111

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$848,925**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

This proposal seeks to redevelop the Historic Prospect Hill Cemetery into a community asset, by making it a living cemetery that brings people closer to Omaha as it was and is, by memorializing the dead and bringing to life Omaha's art, history, and natural beauty.

The Historic Prospect Hill Cemetery is a community asset for North Omaha that requires both preservation and revitalization. After the Territorial Legislature authorized cemeteries in 1858, over 15,000 burials have been recorded here--including those of several early pioneers who gave their names to streets, parks, and schools across the city. Military burials in this cemetery are from people who served as early as the War of 1812. There are also people buried here from the Spanish-American War, Omaha Barracks (later Fort Omaha), and our volunteers have worked to identify and locate their graves, as well as the graves of African-Americans and Native Americans who have impacted Omaha's early history.

A revitalized cemetery will provide a significant positive impact for the community by adding five new public access points to the restored walking paths, a new natural heritage site with native plants that will create a new Salem Baptist Church-facing entrance, a new pond will function as a groundwater catchment to the northeast, and additional space for reunions, performing arts, and living history exhibits will be created in a brand-new magnificent gazebo in the cemetery's center. Also, new masonry retaining walls in the southeast corner will provide a pleasant street presence, enticing pedestrians to explore the restored grounds. The deteriorated chain link fence will be replaced with a historically accurate wrought iron fence. A new sidewalk on 33rd Street will reconnect the community. A magnificent grand staircase will enable residents of Highlander to reach the cemetery's walking trails and a diverse range of native plants, including a variety of pollinator-friendly flora, will be featured throughout the site.

This proposal will result in a community asset that is an essential part of Omaha's history and future. It will provide a place for the living to learn about the past, enjoy the present, and prepare for the future.

# **#190** RADIUS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT

RADIUS is located at 5040 Grand Ave., Omaha, NE 68104. The campus is composed to two buildings: 1) A 24 bed residential facility with a school and administrative space; 2) A separate outpatient clinic located next to the residential facility which will be operated in by Charles Drew Health Center.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$678,545**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

The mission of RADIUS is to empower youth and families to reach their full potential through community engagement and trauma-informed education, social and behavioral health services. RADIUS is creating new services at 5040 Grand Ave. (census tract 63.02) to serve youth and families primarily residing within the identified census tracts. These youth, age 12-18, are involved in the juvenile justice system and are not served in Omaha programs due to a variety of factors, including capacity issues (i.e. accepted but not served due to lack of bed space) and complexity of needs not able to be met by existing programs (i.e. not accepted and hence referred out of state). The current absence of services requires, on average, 20-25 justice involved youth to leave the Omaha community to programs in Arizona, Utah, Missouri, Ohio and other states for behavioral health treatment and rehabilitation. The majority of these youth and their families reside within the identified census tracts. An Advisory Group with diverse key stakeholders came together in September 2019 and included: individuals with lived experience in the juvenile justice and adult corrections system, juvenile court and probation, law enforcement, and behavioral and physical healthcare experts. The group met monthly to provide feedback on proposed programmatic features based on their knowledge of our local youth, families and community. After meeting, discussions and research, they proposed to create a new 501(c)(3). In July 2020, RADIUS was formed to provide residential care, education, outpatient treatment, and in-home services to justice system involved adolescents who have experienced significant trauma and need treatment for mental health and/or substance use disorders. RADIUS will use grant funds to develop its workforce that will provide residential care, education, and in-home family services to justice involved youth. Workforce development activities include recruitment and hiring of direct care staff and training beginning in May 2023 continuing through December 2025. The proposal has three primary components: 1) Recruitment and hiring of direct care staff from qualified census tracts; 2) Training and career development for direct care staff; 3) Paid internship program; and 4) Professional development program for education staff.



COMPLIANCE	CONSEQUENCE	INFLUENCE	
Funding Timing QCT Viability <b>COMPLIANCE</b> CATEGORY	Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 of LB1024 CONSEQUENCE	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			4.5



Benson High School 5120 Maple St, Omaha, NE 68104

Monroe Middle School 5105 Bedford Ave, Omaha, NE 68104

King Science Technical Magnet Middle School, 3720 Florence Blvd, Omaha, NE 68110

McMillan Middle School 3802 Redick Ave, Omaha, NE 68112

South High School 4519 N4th St, Omaha, NE 68107

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$448,999**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

JAG Nebraska, in association with United Way of the Midlands, removes barriers and creates paths to transformational opportunity for youth – resulting in improved graduation, employment and educational outcomes for at-risk youth. Through evidence-based curriculum, students learn critical skills for employment and prepare to enter the workforce upon graduation. JAG programming integrates project-based learning, employer engagement, and trauma-informed care through competency-based, for-credit, elective classroom instruction. JAG Nebraska began services in 2019 and currently serves 645 students at 14 middle and high school programs in Nebraska, with plans to expand into at least 12 more in the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. A grant from LE 1024 would accelerate this growth and create positive educational and workforce outcomes for students at five Omaha Public Schools located in Qualified Census Tracts (QCT): Benson High School, Monroe Middle School, King Science Technical Magnet Middle School, McMillan Middle School, and South High School.



The location of the business will be 2711 North 24th Street (24th and Miami). The building was the Carnation Ballroom. The Carnation Ballroom is where Mildred Brown opened a safe and alcohol-free entertainment and social venue. Our goal is to open a business where African American families have a safe place to heal from trauma.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$473,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Because of the lack of trauma programming in the North Omaha community our youth are becoming more at risk. Our program will provide innovative trauma therapy and innovations to develop resiliency and a better mindset in our youth and families. This program will create a safer community by providing needed trauma therapy to adolescent and their families. The features that are offered in our program are the following:

Feature	Benefit
• Sound Therapy	Emotional Balance in the person
• Peer Support	Coaching through lived experience
• Trauma Therapy	Healing from trauma
<ul> <li>Family education and therapy</li> </ul>	Reconnection of the family

The funding request will be used to purchase (therapeutic equipment/office equipment), operating expenses, and purchase transportation. Our business will create seven jobs at the median income level on North 24th street. This is an innovative program that was created out of the experiences and applications of therapeutic interventions. This will be the only trauma program that exists in our North Omaha community.

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Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3.45

	CON	<b>NPLIA</b>	NCE		CONSEQUENCE						INF	LUEN				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3.05



No location provided

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$300,000**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Chosen 1 Child Development Center will continue to serve families and children by providing high quality care and education. We would like to upgrade our playground area, so the children have a safe place to explore. We would like to increase our capacity by adding two infant classrooms and one toddler classroom. There will be a need to hire a full-time director and 4 Early Childhood Educators to ensure ratios are met daily. We would like to upgrade our van and continue with transportation, the ECE that we hire will also be able to drive the van. We would like to update the office supplies and be able to pay for adequate trainings for staff and educators. Our location will remain the same and we will expand the spaces we already occupy. We are hoping the timeline is completed in thirty-six months.



TWP is located at the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (CEC) on the UNO campus at 6001 Dodge Street, Suite 228, Omaha, NE 68182. The CEC is a one-ofa-kind place, designed to combine great ideas and organizations with the boundless energy of the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO) campus. The facility houses several nonprofit and community serving organizations providing an opportunity for innovative partnerships and collaborative programs. Every day, in our meeting rooms, hallways, and building partner offices, people build mutually beneficial collaborations and find creative ways to make a difference in our community.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$209,198**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Mental wellbeing is at the root of health and impacts our community including its youth. According to the 2021 Child & Adolescent Health Needs Assessment 9.6% of Metro Area parents believe that their school-age child's mental health is "fair" or "poor" (CAHNA, 43). This data is unfavorably high among respondents in Northeast Omaha and reported more often among parents of teens, those living on lower incomes, and parents of Black children. Awareness of mental health resources is lowest among Southeast Omaha respondents and is reported less often among low-income households, parents of Hispanic children, and parents of Black children (CAHNA, 185).

The proposed program aims to increase access to mental health support for North and South Omaha youth and contribute to a sustainable community through mental health education and employment support. TWP seeks to train 140 youth-serving adults in youth mental health first aid (YMHFA) by 2025. YMHFA is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis.

Additionally, this proposal seeks to aid employment through financial support for professional licensing and certification for adults desiring to/currently working with youth. Furthermore, participants will be provided with the opportunity to become a certified trainer of the YMHFA curriculum. This then allows those people the opportunity to make an income by offering YMHFA training to other community members and organizations.



Funding Timing QCT Viability COMPLANCE ComPLANCE	Jobs Overall Economic Benefit Targeted Economic Benefit Three Goals of LB1024 CONSEQUENCE CONSEQUENCE	Alignment w/Needs Scaling/ Expansion Investment Catalyst Adjacency/ Partners INFLUENCE	AGGREGATE SCORE ECONOMIC SCORE
			1.7



The workshops will be held at the Connects, 2112 N. 30th Street, Ste 105 this location is a meeting space for training and other community needs.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$36,269**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

Our focus at The Business Connection is to prepare small business owner for success from the start of their business. The Small Business Education Academy is a six-month program geared to provide education. We will cover business plan development, financial literacy for both business and personal, credit repair and building credit as an asset, filing legal documents for business, taxes, professional development, money management, funding sources, business resumption planning, mentoring, one on one consultations, marketing, brand development, company culture development, organizational charts and pitch development.

We will be working with 25 business owners in each session to build their business to be successful enough to hire a minimum of one new employee. We are also looking to increase their credit score by 100 pts. All the participants will be from North of Cummings to Martin Avenue and East of N 72nd Street to N 10th Street as well as South of Martha to U street and East of S 50th street to S 10th Street.

The Small Business Education Academy will be in two sessions the January to June session and July to December session of 2023. The first two sessions will be completed by December 31, 2023. At which time will have graduated 50 small business owners, created 100 jobs. We are also looking to prepare all participants to be ready to obtain loans if applicable.

# **#312** STRENGTHENING AND DIVERSIFYING OMAHA'S TECH ECOSYSTEM

AIM's programs and services take place across the Greater Omaha area, particularly in South Omaha (Omaha South and Bryan High Schools) and North Omaha (Benson High and Monroe Middle School). We also offer programming at the WCA in Eastern Omaha, the Goodwill Training Center in North Omaha, and Heartland Workforce Solutions in North Omaha; when the new Goodwill Training Center and Heartland Workforce Solutions sites open in South Omaha next year, we will provide services in those locations as well.

#### **REQUESTED FUNDING AMOUNT \$499,958**

#### **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

The tech community in the Silicon Prairie suffers from a talent gap, is disconnected, inaccessible, and lacks diversity. Meanwhile, thousands of high-paying jobs go unfilled in the region, while many underrepresented individuals struggle to earn a living. The AIM Institute (AIM) addresses this issue by helping fill the growing need for skilled workers in technology roles by providing training, education, and connections to empower people to enter the tech workforce. Whether through Code School, Youth in Tech, Success Academies, or annual conferences, AIM excites people about technology, inspires them to pursue tech careers, and helps them navigate the tech-career continuum.

AlM will focus its programming to serve the North and South Omaha communities, including schools, community organization, the unemployed, businesses, and the public at large through our life-changing, cycle-breaking, career development and tech education. To multiply the impact of these services, as well as all programs in the target areas, AlM will collaborate with the Omaha STEM Ecosystem (OSE) to further develop and disseminate the STEM Community Platform (SCP), a no-cost digital tool that aggregates and centralizes information about local STEM offerings, from free tech education and career planning to general STEM info. The platform demystifies STEM sectors and redresses the historical siloing of information that has long excluded underserved communities.

To ensure widespread adoption, AIM will conduct a series of public workshops at partner organizations, including Goodwill Training Centers and Heartland Workforce Solutions, to teach community members how to use the platform. AIM will co-locate these workshops with Demystifying Tech Careers workshops, which delineate the five areas of tech (coding, design, data, operations and support) and help participants assess how their own strengths and interests align with tech career paths. Workshops incorporate specially trained I.T. career coaches (Tech Navigators) working one-on-one with participants to map out a career plan, and connecting them to local opportunities to begin the journey. Thanks to AIM's strong partnerships with the local nonprofit community, Tech Navigators can also connect participants to any wraparound services they may need in order to pursue technical education, such as public transportation passes and childcare stipends if necessary.

	CON	ЛРLIA	NCE		CONSEQUENCE						INF	LUEN				
Funding	Timing	QCT	Viability	COMPLIANCE CATEGORY	Jobs	Overall Economic Benefit	Targeted Economic Benefit	Three Goals of LB1024	CONSEQUENCE CATEGORY	Alignment w/Needs	Scaling/ Expansion	Investment Catalyst	Adjacency/ Partners	INFLUENCE CATEGORY	AGGREGATE SCORE	ECONOMIC SCORE
																3



# CONCLUSION Olsson®

#### **Purpose and Role of these Recommendations**

The recommendations provided in this Coordination Plan are designed to inform the LB1024 funding decisions to be made by the Special Committee. Evaluation results are meant to serve as a tool for the Special Committee to guide funding allocations. The Special Committee maintains final discretion on ultimate LB1024 funding allocation decisions.

This Coordination Plan, including the appendices, documents the extensive stakeholder and public engagement process that was undertaken to form the recommendations.

#### **Next Steps**

With the establishment of this Coordination Plan, the Special Committee will use the recommendations herein to guide grant funding allocation decisions. In early 2023, the Nebraska State Legislature will craft a bill to allocate funding to proposals. The bill will go through the normal committee process and full floor process for approvals. Once approved, it is anticipated that dollars will be distributed late summer of 2023.

After selected proposals are identified through the new bill, funding will be allocated to selected proposals, and proposal/project activities will proceed. Proposal owners will be responsible for further development of their plans and implementation of the respective proposal/project. Proposal owners, as part of their proposal development and execution, will need to comply with all ARPA requirements and audit documentation. All funding must be expended by July 2026, with project closeout by December 2026.

With the implementation of Economic Recovery Act funding, the North and South Omaha communities will experience transformation, fundamental change, and long-lasting economic growth.

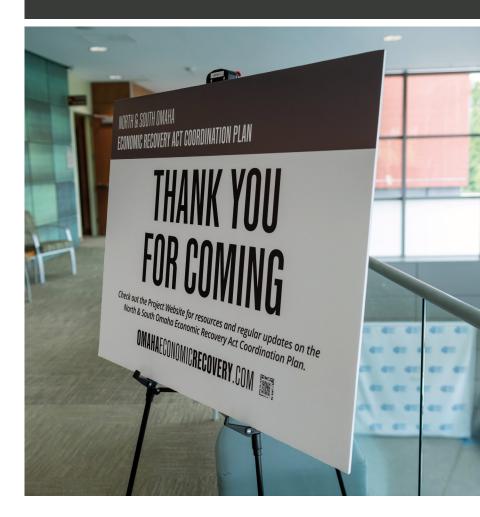
For more information about the Omaha Economic Recovery Project and to keep up with updates, visit the website at **www.omahaeconomicrecovery.com**.

For more information about audit requirements associated with this funding, follow the link below.

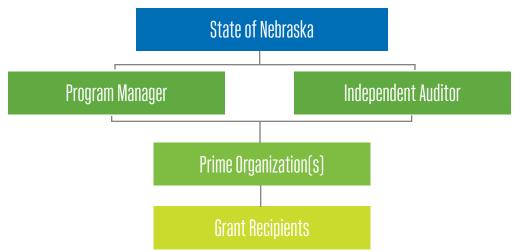
https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-forstate-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recoveryfunds/recipient-compliance-and-reporting-responsibilities

#### **Ongoing Coordination Plan Use**

This Coordination Plan identifies proposals with the North and South Omaha communities that are beyond the scope of the existing funding capacity. Consideration can and should be given in the future to proposals identified in the key geographical areas for development when future funding becomes available. The extensive process that engaged the community and identified proposals should continue to be utilized to continue development plans.



#### **PROGRAM DELIVERY RECOMMENDATIONS**



Executing a program of this magnitude is complicated. However, there is an opportunity to further leverage the grouped proposals in the geographic areas through the implementation phase. To provide overall administrative support and financial oversight for the ARPA reporting and monitoring requirements, the state of Nebraska should consider hiring a third-party program manager/owner's representative and auditor. This would lessen the burden on the state and ensure compliance with federal funds.

Additionally, there could be advantages to establishing an experienced prime organization(s) to take the lead - whether for each community (North and South) or for each respective geographic area (North 16th-North 24th and South 24th-Q Street).

By doing so, the likelihood of success is increased, and the following benefits can be realized:

- Streamlined city permitting and construction process.
- One general contractor for each area provides efficiency and cost savings that could not be realized individually.
- Fewer conflicts.
- Open communication.

This approach could also further enable the communities to build their respective capacity and use the prime organization as a future resource for continued growth.

#### **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES / NEEDS**

Transit Investment. Investing in enhanced transit service to connect with the future North Omaha IHUB, would enable commercialization with the Nebraska Medicine Innovation Hub. This strategic partnership would increase research and development companies bring to market. Prior to World War II, most of North and South Omaha were served by streetcar systems. In Portland, Oregon, the \$55 million streetcar line has sparked over \$1.5 billion (and growing) in new development, making it probably the best municipal investment anywhere in recent times. In Tampa, FL its 2.5-mile line has stimulated over \$600 million in public projects, and a correspondingly robust \$700 million in private projects. Consideration should be given to a partnership between the Legislature, the City of Omaha, and Metro Transit to move transit investments forward for both North and South Omaha. Steps would include a study of alternatives, preliminary design, permitting, design, and construction.

Community Reconnection. The federal government has created a new Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program. It is the first-ever federal program dedicated to reconnecting communities that were previously cut off from economic opportunities by transportation infrastructure. Funding supports planning grants and capital construction grants, as well as technical assistance, to restore community connectivity through the removal, retrofit, mitigation, or replacement of eligible transportation infrastructure facilities. This concept has already been discussed withing the Urban Core for lid park concepts east of Turner Park and the I-480 connection through North Downtown to Iowa. The Legislature has already determined the importance of the US 75 corridor in 2019 (LB129/LB294) when it allocated funds toward a feasibility study to provide transportation options for Highway 75 along the North 30th Street corridor, including the construction of a new bridge across the Missouri River. Similar opportunities exist in South Omaha between the South 24th Street and Q Street focus areas due to the Kennedy Expressway (US 75). The Legislature, the City of Omaha, and Metropolitan Area Planning Agency should invest in planning dollars to apply for this significant federal grant.

# **Increase in private capital flows.** One of the other critical issues that we have encountered in the ecosystem concerns the low survival rate of startups after five years, as well as a poor dimensional growth that makes them unattractive for capital injections or corporate and financial acquisitions. One of the possible causes lies in the widespread dependence of startups on public funding, which albeit a valid tool in the startup phase, evidently exerts a lower competitive pressure than that exerted by the profit objectives of private funds. Therefore, we have proposed a series of initiatives and programs that would encourage the flow of private capital into the region by reducing the risk for the private investor, as well as by increasing the visibility of regional startups to an audience of international investors.

Leverage North Omaha's iHub with federal programs. The CHIPS and Science

Act (CHIPS) passed with bipartisan support from Congress and was signed into law by President Biden on August 9, 2022. The CHIPS Act recommends Congress appropriate \$10 billion over five years for a Commerce Department program to support at least 20 geographically-distributed regional technology and innovation hubs focused on technology development, job creation, and expanding U.S. innovation capacity. The legislation also authorizes the Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program (RECOMPETE Pilot Program), which is a historic investment of \$1 billion to help what it calls "distressed" communities—places with a high local employment gap and lower household incomes compared with the national average—pursue comprehensive economic and workforce development initiatives. This Act provides a unique opportunity to support North Omaha's Innovation Hub. Increase the culture of entrepreneurship and ecosystems. Studies

revealed a low propensity for entrepreneurship among the younger generations, often worried about the risks associated with starting new businesses, who have a lack of confidence in institutional support mechanisms in the event of bankruptcy. Furthermore, the low aptitude for collaboration with local stakeholders – which emerged among our entrepreneurs – is an indication of a low level of trust in the network of stakeholders, typical of an innovation ecosystem. Therefore, we have prepared a series of initiatives that would nurture the culture of entrepreneurship and ecosystems through advanced training programs and innovative teaching tools, as well as public measures that would encourage collaboration between local entities aimed at developing innovation.

**Increase affordable housing**. In the next eight years the affordability period will end for another 2,000 units in Nebraska. Nearly 30,000 housing units are needed in the City of Omaha by 2030, 60% of that need is for affordable units. In July of 2022, the Treasury Department released new guidelines for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. The guidelines included a new use of SLFRF funding for affordable housing through long-term loan investments (20-plus years), including investments in the development of affordable housing and/or to homeowner and homebuyer supports. Based on the length of eligible loans, this ARPA funding expenditure is currently the only allowance for investments that extends beyond the December 31, 2026, deadline.

