

From: jnytko@govsol.org
Subject: New submission ALBANY Arts, Culture, and Tourism Application
Date: July 1, 2023 at 12:08 AM
To: jnytko@govsol.org



General Information

Date of application

06/30/2023

Name of Entity

Lark Street BID

Entity TIN, EIN or Social Security Number

14-1788430

Entity physical address

200 Washington Ave
Albany, New York 12208
United States

[Map It](#)

Is the physical address different from the mailing address?

No

Website (if available)

<https://larkstreetbid.org>

Primary Contact Information

Primary contact name

Ella Montelone

Primary contact title

Executive Director

Primary contact phone

(914) 409-7485

Primary contact email

ella@larkstreet.org

What is the primary contacts preferred method of contact?

Either

Entity Info and Structure

Which structure best describes the entity?

Non-profit organization

What is the date of establishment?

1996

If applicable, is the entity a W/MAM (Minority or Women-Owned Business Entity)?

No

Have you or the entity ever received any form of COVID-19 relief funds or loans specific to the negative impacts of the Pandemic?

Yes

If "Yes" above, please specify the type(s) and amount(s).

The Lark Street BID received PPP loans. The full amounts will be sent in supplemental attachments to the application.

General Project Information

Describe the arts/cultural/tourism activities your organization provides in Albany County.

The Lark Street Business Improvement District (BID) in Albany County, New York, is known for its vibrant arts, cultural, and tourism activities. The Lark Street BID is dedicated to promoting and enhancing the Lark Street neighborhood as a diverse and dynamic cultural destination. Here are some of the activities and offerings provided by the Lark Street BID:

- Art Exhibitions: The BID organizes and supports various forms of art exhibitions by local artists throughout the year. These showcase a wide range of artistic styles and mediums. Visitors can explore these outdoor and indoor spaces to appreciate and purchase unique artworks.
- Live Performances: The Lark Street BID hosts live performances, including music concerts and spoken word events. These performances take place in local venues, parks, and public spaces, offering residents and visitors a chance to experience the vibrant arts scene in Albany County.
- Cultural/Food Festivals: The BID organizes and sponsors cultural/food festivals that celebrate the diversity of the Lark Street neighborhood and the wider Albany County community. These festivals feature music, dance, food, and crafts from various cultures, providing a rich and immersive experience for attendees.
- Public Art Installations: The Lark Street BID supports the installation of public art throughout the neighborhood, and hopes to increase public art with ARPA grant funding. These art installations could include sculptures, murals, or small visualizations on planters or bollards, and would contribute to the visual appeal of the area and create engaging experiences for pedestrians and visitors.
- Culinary Experiences: The Lark Street BID promotes the local culinary scene by showcasing a variety of restaurants, cafes, and eateries in the area. The myriad of restaurants in the Lark Street Corridor allow visitors to sample diverse cuisines and experience unique flavors.
- Special Events: The BID coordinates special events throughout the year, such as street fairs, art markets, and seasonal celebrations. These events create a festive atmosphere and encourage community engagement, attracting residents and visitors alike from throughout Albany County.

Overall, the Lark Street BID plays a significant role in fostering a vibrant arts and cultural scene in Albany County. Through art exhibitions, live performances, cultural festivals, culinary experiences, and special events, the BID contributes to the community's cultural enrichment and promotes tourism in the area.

If an award is made, describe how Albany County will benefit. Where possible, please quantify impact.

If an award is made to the Lark Street BID, Albany County would benefit in several ways, with both tangible and intangible impacts. Here are some potential benefits and their quantifiable or measurable impacts:

- Economic Boost: The Lark Street BID's activities would attract more visitors to the area, resulting in increased tourism and spending. This would have a direct positive impact on local businesses, including restaurants, shops, and hotels. The award could help stimulate the local economy, leading to job creation and increased tax revenue for Albany County.
- Cultural Enrichment: The Lark Street BID's focus on arts, cultural events, and (hopefully) public art installations would enhance the county's cultural landscape. It would provide residents and visitors with opportunities to engage with diverse artistic expressions and experiences. The quantifiable impact may include increased attendance at exhibitions, performances, and festivals, indicating higher cultural participation within the community.

- Community Engagement: The award would enable the Lark Street BID to organize more special events, street fairs, and community programs. These initiatives would foster a sense of community and bring people together, contributing to social cohesion. Increased participation in community events and higher attendance at public gatherings could serve as indicators of enhanced community engagement.
- Neighborhood Revitalization: The Lark Street BID's efforts to support public art installations and maintain the aesthetics of the area would contribute to the revitalization of the neighborhood. In conjunction with the City's Revitalization Plan, this could lead to improved property values, increased foot traffic, and higher occupancy rates for businesses. Quantifiable impacts may include an increase in property values or commercial rental rates within the Lark Street BID area.
- Image and Reputation: The award would elevate the profile of Albany County as a vibrant cultural destination. The Lark Street BID's successful implementation of arts and cultural activities would garner positive attention, attracting visitors from outside the region. Increased media coverage, positive reviews, and visitor surveys indicating a preference for Albany County's cultural offerings would demonstrate the improved image and reputation.

Monitoring and continual business, resident, and tourist evaluation measures would be necessary to assess the direct and indirect effects of the award on the economic, cultural, and social benefits. With this funding, we are confident that there can and will be a measurable positive impact.

If an award is made, describe how the funds will help you to sustain your operations in Albany County.

If an award is made, the funds would play a critical role in supporting the Lark Street BID's ongoing operations in Albany County. The financial assistance provided by the award would contribute to the sustainability and success of the organization in several ways.

Most importantly, the awarded funds would enable the Lark Street BID to enhance their existing programs and initiatives. This includes expanding cultural events, improving marketing efforts, and implementing new community engagement initiatives. The funds would fuel innovation and allow the BID to adapt to the changing needs and preferences of the community, while also returning to their roots of a clean and creative space.

In addition, the financial support would contribute to economic development efforts in the Lark Street BID area. These efforts would foster economic growth, job creation, and an increased sense of vitality in Albany County and the Lark Street Corridor.

The funds would also facilitate continued community engagement and collaboration. The BID could organize public meetings, workshops, and forums to gather input from residents, business owners, and stakeholders. By maintaining partnerships with local organizations and involving the community in decision-making processes, the BID would ensure that their initiatives align with the needs and aspirations of the Lark Street community.

Lastly, the awarded funds would support marketing and promotional activities to attract visitors and tourists to the Lark Street area. Through various promotions, the BID will raise awareness about the district's unique offerings, cultural attractions, and events. This increased visibility would drive foot traffic and support local businesses.

Overall, if an award is made, the funds would provide essential support to the Lark Street BID, enabling them to sustain their operations, develop impactful programs, foster economic growth, engage with the community, and attract visitors. This financial assistance would be instrumental in the continued success of the organization in Albany County.

Describe the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic increased or decreased demand for your services. As an option, you may attach to this application any optional information that supports you're the service increase or decrease being described below.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the demand for services provided by the Lark Street BID and its clients within the BID jurisdiction. The demand for in-person arts, cultural, and tourism activities significantly decreased as social distancing measures and restrictions on public gatherings were implemented. BID events had to be canceled or postponed, resulting in a decline in attendance and participation.

Local businesses represented by the Lark Street BID were adversely affected. Reduced foot traffic, temporary closures, and capacity limitations led to decreased demand for their products and services. During the pandemic, there was an increased demand for outdoor spaces that allowed for social distancing. Parks, public plazas, and outdoor dining areas became more important for people seeking safe recreational options. The BID businesses experienced increased demand for takeout, outdoor events, and creative activities. Many pivoted, but many were left behind and are still struggling.

Consumer behavior shifted during the pandemic, with people being more cautious about spending and prioritizing essential items. Discretionary spending on arts, culture, and tourism decreased as individuals and families faced financial uncertainties and limited opportunities for leisure activities. What we've learned is that COVID changed our society's relationship with receiving deliveries - our neighborhood (and others across the City) orders more food to their homes than ever before. This has resulted in a massive increase in garbage throughout our neighborhood.

Overall, the pandemic significantly affected the demand for services provided by the Lark Street BID and its clients within the BID jurisdiction. The BID and its stakeholders had to navigate these challenges, adapt their offerings, and find ways to engage with the community while ensuring safety and compliance with health guidelines. We are still recovering and working to come back successful.

Please select the grant opportunity you wish to apply to

I wish to be considered for both (see below note)

Project Information – Recovery Grant

What amount of funding is being requested?

\$50,000.00

Provide the total amount of lost revenue/additional expenses attributable to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Quantifying the exact amount of lost revenue or additional expenses attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic is a challenging task. The impact of the pandemic on businesses and organizations, especially those under the jurisdiction of the Lark Street BID, has been significant and widespread. While it is difficult to provide specific numbers without comprehensive data, it is evident that the pandemic has caused substantial financial challenges for small businesses, of which the BID boundaries are exclusively comprised of.

The Lark Street BID can attest to the fact that all small businesses under their purview have been affected by the pandemic. The restrictions, closures, and modified consumer activity have led to revenue losses and increased expenses for these businesses. Many establishments have faced temporary closures, limited operations, reduced customer footfall, and added costs associated with implementing health and safety measures.

Although the precise financial impact cannot be quantified without specific data, it is important to recognize the widespread nature of the challenges faced by small businesses during the pandemic. The Lark Street BID has firsthand knowledge of the struggles and can verify that all businesses within their purview have suffered varying degrees of financial hardship due to the pandemic.

By acknowledging the overall impact on small businesses and emphasizing the BID's awareness and understanding of the challenges faced, it becomes apparent that the COVID-19 pandemic has created a substantial negative economic effect. The focus should be on supporting these businesses in their recovery and helping them regain their financial stability in the post-pandemic period.

Sustainable Operating Model: Describe how your organization adapted its operations to respond to (a) the immediate impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic and (b) any long-term trends brought about by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Lark Street BID assisted business to make several adaptations to operations in response to the immediate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the emerging long-term trends. In the immediate aftermath of the pandemic, the BID focused on effective communication and information dissemination to provide guidance and resources to its stakeholders. This included sharing updates on health guidelines, government regulations, and available financial support for local businesses.

To support its member businesses during the pandemic, the Lark Street BID shifted its focus to online engagement. This involved promoting local businesses through online social media platforms and encouraging online shopping or takeout/delivery services. This has been successful.

As the pandemic unfolded, certain long-term trends emerged. The BID recognized the increased demand for outdoor spaces and expanded its focus on outdoor activation, takeout orders, and patio seating. This included facilitating additional outdoor dining areas, organizing outdoor events or performances, and activating public spaces to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for visitors and residents.

Finally, the pandemic undoubtedly reinforced the importance of supporting local businesses and adopting sustainable practices. The Lark Street BID has always (but now more than ever) encourages the community to prioritize local purchases, promote eco-friendly initiatives, and support local artisans and producers.

Does the entity possess a financial management system that provides records that can identify the sources and application of ARPA funds if an award is made? Please explain below:

Yes

Project Information – Promotion Grants

Please select whether the proposed project is new or existing

Expands an existing initiative or project

Please provide a short summary of your proposed project including a project name, general description, total cost, reason(s) why you are pursuing the project and anticipated impact:

Title: Lark Street is Clean, Green, and Colorful: Enhancing the Community Experience

Project Description:

The Lark Street Clean, Green, and Colorful initiative aims to improve the cleanliness and aesthetics of the Lark Street BID Corridor which will foster a sense of community ownership and pride. With a budget of \$100,000, this street beautification project will focus on street cleaning, beautification, and artistic community engagement. By investing in cleanliness and increasing the bright and vibrant art on the street, the project aims to create a more welcoming environment for residents, visitors, and local businesses.

Street Cleaning and Maintenance (\$60,000):

- Purchase street power-washer equipment
- Employ a dedicated team to conduct regular street sweeping and litter removal along Lark Street, more than the 20 hours done by a single person now.
- Implement a graffiti removal program to promptly address any vandalism or unauthorized street art.
- Conduct power washing of sidewalks, building facades, and other public surfaces to maintain cleanliness and remove stains.

Beautification and Green Spaces Enhancement (\$35,000):

- Invest in additional planters, flowers, and shrubs to add greenery and beauty to the street. Choose native plants that require minimal maintenance.
- Collaborate with local artists to create small-scale art installations, sculptures/ decorative elements to planters and cafe permitted bollards to enhance the visual appeal of the area.
- Kick off the Lark Street Revitalization with an “Exaltation of Larks” Art Walk. Similar to the nipper dogs of downtown Albany, Lark Street will commission local artists to create larks to be placed on Lark Street.
- Implement regular maintenance and watering schedules to ensure the longevity and vitality of the green spaces.

Community Engagement and Education (\$5,000):

- Organize volunteer-led clean-up events, engaging local residents, businesses, and community groups in taking an active role in maintaining the cleanliness of Lark Street.
- Conduct educational campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of cleanliness waste

Conduct educational campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of cleanliness, waste reduction, and responsible waste disposal among residents, visitors, and business owners.

- Develop informative signage and distribute educational materials to promote positive behaviors and discourage littering and vandalism.
- Establish partnerships with local schools, colleges, and community organizations to conduct workshops or educational activities focused on environmental stewardship and empathetic reasoning with those that may cause disruption on the street.

Project Evaluation:

- Monitor and document the cleanliness of the street before and after the implementation of the initiative.
- Gather feedback from residents, visitors, and business owners through surveys or feedback forms to assess their perceptions and satisfaction with the improved cleanliness and beautification efforts.
- Measure the reduction in litter and graffiti incidents through regular assessments.
- Track the engagement level and participation of the community in clean-up events and educational activities.

By implementing the Lark Street Clean, Green, and Colorful initiative, the Lark Street BID can enhance the overall experience of the community, promote a cleaner environment, and instill a sense of pride in the neighborhood. This project will contribute to making Lark Street a more attractive destination for residents, visitors, and businesses alike.

What amount of funding is being requested?

\$100,000.00

Please describe the entity's capabilities to implement the project you propose including organizational structure, staff members involved, a summary of similar initiatives you have undertaken and the date they were completed:

The Lark Street BID team is currently comprised of an Executive Director and six board members. We are expanding. The Board is incredibly active in the feeling and future of Lark Street, and would continue to monitor progress of this program if implemented. The BID has a strong group of community partners and volunteers that are utilized regularly to assist in cleanup projects; however, we are not able to adequately maintain the street with the COVID-related increase in waste. This grant would allow the BID to seek additional paid employees to assist in street beautification while also empowering the local artist community to showcase their talent. Lark Street has long been known as the neighborhood of artists and creatives - the BID is actively reclaiming this identity and is interested in funding more public art projects like this, in addition to murals and sculptures.

Currently the BID has a relationship with Global Partners to maintain the proposed plant installations with regular watering and plant maintenance. The BID has previously partnered with local greenhouses to store the planters and select native plants for the street.

Please describe, in detail, the impact your proposed project will have on Arts, Culture and/or Tourism in Albany County. Describe how your project will attract new visitors to Albany County. Where possible use metrics/estimates of impact (i.e. increased visitation etc.).

The Lark Street Clean, Green, and Colorful project, focused on enhancing the community experience through street cleaning and beautification, will have a positive impact on arts, culture, and tourism in Albany County. This project creates a more inviting and appealing environment that can directly contribute to increased tourism. We anticipate this project will impact the community in the following ways:

Cultural and Aesthetic Enhancement:

- The project's beautification efforts, such as the enhancement of green spaces and installation of art and decorative elements, will enhance the overall aesthetic appeal of Lark Street and its surroundings.
- These improvements create a visually pleasing and culturally rich atmosphere, reflecting the community's pride and commitment to a vibrant arts and cultural scene.
- Visitors and residents will experience a more enjoyable and immersive environment that fosters a sense of place, reinforcing Albany County's cultural identity.

Visitor Attraction and Engagement:

The project's focus on cleanliness, maintenance, and beautification will make Lark Street more

- The project's focus on cleanliness, maintenance, and beautification will make Lark Street more inviting and welcoming to visitors.
- Clean and well-maintained streets, attractive green spaces, and appealing public art installations contribute to a positive visitor experience and encourage exploration of the area.
- The increased appeal of Lark Street as a visually pleasing destination can generate positive word-of-mouth and social media engagement, attracting new visitors to Albany County.

Economic Impact:

- A clean and aesthetically improved environment enhances the overall image and reputation of Albany County, making it a more attractive destination for both tourists and potential businesses.
- Visitors and neighbors drawn to Lark Street by its enhanced appearance are likely to spend more time exploring the area, leading to increased spending on local businesses such as shops, restaurants, and cultural venues.
- The project's focus on community engagement and pride can stimulate support for local businesses, fostering economic growth within the county.

Metrics and Estimates of Impact:

- Increased Foot Traffic: Monitoring the foot traffic on Lark Street before and after the implementation of the project can provide insights into the potential increase in visitors and their engagement with the area.
- Business Revenue: Collaboration with local businesses to track sales and revenue can help measure the project's impact on the local economy.
- Visitor Surveys: Conducting surveys with visitors to Lark Street can gauge their perceptions of the cleanliness, attractiveness, and cultural appeal of the area, providing qualitative insights into the project's impact on visitor experiences.

The Lark Street Clean, Green, and Colorful initiative aims to create a positive environment that contributes to the overall cultural and tourism appeal of Albany County.

How will you track performance goals and define success? Include at least two key performance indicators and expected annual outcomes/impact during the reporting period (September 2023 - December 2026).

To track performance goals and define success for the Lark Street Clean & Green project, several key performance indicators (KPIs) can be used to measure progress and outcomes.

>KPI: Increase in Foot Traffic on Lark Street

Expected Outcome: Annual growth of foot traffic by 10% compared to the previous year.

Measurement: Conduct pedestrian counts or utilize existing foot traffic data to track the number of visitors on Lark Street throughout the reporting period. Compare the data on a yearly basis to determine the growth rate.

> KPI: Business Revenue Growth in the Lark Street BID Area

Expected Outcome: Annual increase in revenue for businesses within the Lark Street BID area by 5% compared to the previous year.

Measurement: Collaborate with local businesses to collect and analyze revenue data through voluntary reporting. Compare the revenue figures on an annual basis to assess the growth rate.

These KPIs provide measurable indicators of the project's impact on visitor engagement and economic growth within the Lark Street BID area. By tracking these metrics, the project can evaluate its effectiveness in attracting visitors, stimulating economic activity, and fostering a vibrant community environment.

In addition to these KPIs, other metrics and evaluation methods can be considered to assess the project's success, such as:

- Visitor Surveys: Conduct periodic surveys with visitors to gather feedback on their perceptions of cleanliness, attractiveness, and cultural appeal of Lark Street.
- Community Engagement: Measure the level of participation and engagement of the community in clean-up events, educational activities, and volunteer efforts. Keep track of the number of participants and their level of involvement to gauge the project's success in fostering community pride and ownership.

By tracking these performance goals and evaluating success based on the defined KPIs and additional metrics, the Lark Street Clean, Green, and Colorful project can assess its impact, make informed decisions, and continuously improve its efforts over the reporting period.

What is the proposed project start date?

August or September 2023, to coincide with the completion of the Albany City Lark Street Improvement Project

What is the anticipated date of completion?

2024

Please provide key performance indicator(s) demonstrating anticipated results

Indicator	2024	2025	2026
Increase in cleanliness rating	Aim to achieve a cleanliness rating improvement of at least 15% compared to the baseline rating established in 2023	Measure the number of new public art installations, murals, or aesthetically enhanced spaces created within the BID jurisdiction, aiming for a minimum of five new installations	Track the increase in the number of green spaces or pocket parks established within the BID jurisdiction, with a target of at least two new spaces created.
Community satisfaction and engagement	Strive to increase community participation in clean-up events or volunteer programs by 25% compared to the previous year.	Conduct a perception survey to assess community satisfaction and aim for a satisfaction rating of 85% or higher regarding the cleanliness and visual appeal of Lark Street.	Engage local businesses, residents, and organizations in the ongoing maintenance and care of clean and green initiatives. Measure participation levels and aim for sustained or increased community involvement over time.

Please provide key project milestones inclusive of the anticipated timelines and descriptions

Milestone	Anticipated Timeline	Task Description
Project Launch + Planning	September 2023- December 2023	This milestone involves the official launch of the Lark Street Clean, Green, and Colorful initiative. It includes developing a comprehensive project plan, establishing partnerships with relevant stakeholders, conducting a baseline assessment of cleanliness, and determining specific goals and targets for the project.
Implementation of Enhanced Cleaning Practices	January 2024 - December 2024	During this period, the focus will be on implementing enhanced cleaning practices to improve the cleanliness of Lark Street. It may involve increased frequency of street sweeping, trash collection, and graffiti removal. Collaboration with local sanitation departments and contractors will be established to ensure efficient and effective cleaning operations.
Beautification and Greening	January 2024 -	This milestone involves implementing beautification and greening initiatives along Lark Street. It will include planting flowers, installing planters, improving landscaping, and

and Greening Initiatives	December 2024	enhancing public spaces with multiple mediums of artwork. The goal is to create an inviting and aesthetically pleasing environment for residents and visitors
Community Engagement and Education	Ongoing throughout the project	Continuous community engagement and education are vital for the success of the initiative. This milestone includes organizing public meetings, workshops, and events to raise awareness about the importance of cleanliness and community involvement. Educational campaigns, volunteer programs, and partnerships with local schools and organizations will be established to foster a sense of ownership and pride in maintaining a clean and green Lark Street.

If you are funding a multi-year initiative, please provide a breakdown of funding level per year below*:

2023	2024	2025	2026
10,000	30,000	30,000	30,000

Is any upfront funding needed to successfully implement your proposed project?

Yes

If "Yes" above, please specify below.

As applicable with County regulations, we would be requesting a third of the project budget to start.

Describe how the funding will support a sustainable Arts/Culture/Tourism initiative that will continue to serve Albany County residents after ARPA funds have been exhausted .

The funding allocated for the sustainable Arts/Culture/Tourism initiative will play a crucial role in ensuring its continued service to Albany County residents beyond the exhaustion of ARPA funds.

Capacity Building and Infrastructure: A portion of the funding will be dedicated to enhancing the initiative's organizational capacity. This includes investing in staff training, acquiring necessary equipment and technology, and improving administrative systems. Infrastructure upgrades will also be prioritized to create a strong foundation for future programming and activities.

Program Diversification and Partnerships: The funding will enable the development and expansion of diverse arts, culture, and tourism programs that cater to the interests and needs of Albany County residents. Collaborative partnerships will be forged with local artists, cultural organizations, educational institutions, and community groups to maximize resources and foster broader community engagement.

Revenue Generation and Sustainability: To ensure long-term sustainability, the initiative will explore revenue generation strategies beyond ARPA funds. This may involve diversifying funding sources through grants, sponsorships, donations, and earned revenue streams. Cultivating relationships with local businesses, tourism organizations, and philanthropic entities will be crucial in securing ongoing financial support.

Community Engagement and Support: The funding will be utilized to foster strong community engagement and support for the initiative. Outreach programs, community forums, and surveys will be implemented to gather feedback and involve residents in decision-making processes. Collaborative initiatives with schools, community centers, and neighborhood associations will ensure inclusivity and relevance to the local community.

By strategically allocating funding to capacity building, program diversification, revenue generation, and community engagement, the sustainable Arts/Culture/Tourism initiative will continue serving Albany County residents beyond the ARPA funding period. The aim is to establish a self-sustaining model that leverages partnerships, generates revenue, and maintains strong community support for long-term success.

Explain why ARPA Funds Are Needed to Complete the proposed program/project. Would the proposal be Possible Without ARPA Assistance? Describe how your proposal would be impacted if you are awarded a smaller grant than requested?

ARPA funds are crucial to complete the proposed program/project for several reasons. Firstly, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the arts, culture, and tourism sectors, leading to financial strain and operational challenges.

The proposal would not be feasible without ARPA assistance due to the magnitude of the challenges faced by the BID, of which are directly related to and exasperated by the COVID 19 pandemic. The funding allows for the implementation of comprehensive initiatives, such as street cleaning, beautification, and art community engagement efforts, which require substantial resources. Without the financial support provided by ARPA, it would be difficult to execute these initiatives effectively and achieve the desired impact. In fact, the Lark Street BID wanted to implement a similar program before the COVID pandemic, and has not recovered the same resources to complete it. This is our opportunity, and we would value the support.

If a smaller grant than requested is awarded, it would impact the scope and scale of the proposed project. The ability to fully implement all planned activities, such as extensive street cleaning, beautification projects, and community programs, may be compromised.

With a smaller grant, prioritization and careful resource allocation would become necessary. Some activities may need to be scaled back or modified, and certain elements of the project may need to be phased or implemented incrementally over time. Despite the potential limitations, efforts would be made to maximize the impact of the awarded grant and seek alternative funding sources to supplement the project's scope.

While a smaller grant would present challenges, the core objectives of the proposal would remain intact. The focus would shift to optimizing the available resources, leveraging partnerships, and seeking additional funding opportunities to ensure the project's success to the best extent possible. Flexibility, adaptability, and creative problem-solving would be key in mitigating the impacts of a reduced grant and still delivering meaningful outcomes for the community.

Risk Assessment

Has the entity adopted and/or implemented policies relating to: records retention, conflict of interest, code of ethics, and/or nondiscrimination policies?

No

Is the entity properly insured?

Yes

Does the entity have a financial management system?

Yes

If "Yes" above, please provide details about the financial management system.

The BID has a bank account through Key Bank, and bookkeeping is done through quickbooks, as we are a small organization with a small number of quality events each year. The BID utilizes a CPA firm to submit tax documents and process records. This organization oversees the BID's finances and submissions.

Has there been any change in the entity's key staffing positions in the last 2 years?

Yes

If "Yes" above, please specify which position(s)

The Lark Street BID's previous Executive Director had to leave for medical reasons. Within the past year the BID hired Ella Montelone as the newest Executive Director.

Has the entity previously done work for the Federal government (i.e. Is the entity experienced in managing Federal funds)?

No

The County is careful about identifying and avoiding conflicts of interest, especially with grants awarded through the County. A conflict of interest arises when a person's self-interest and professional interest or public interest intersect. In this situation, there is the potential for biased professional judgment and lack of objectivity which creates a serious conflict when one of the interests can benefit financially or personally from actions or decisions made in the official capacity. A conflict of interest exists whether or not decisions are affected by a personal interest; there only needs to be the possibility of bias for a conflict. If your organization knows of a possible conflict of interest with your application for funds please disclose that information here. Otherwise write "None."

None

Certifications

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 1

- I Have Been Provided a Copy and Understand the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (see link or PDF included at the top of page)

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 2

- Should the County Allocate ARPA Funds, I am Able to and Pledge to Adhere to ALL Compliance and Reporting Requirements of the U.S. Treasury as it relates to any State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 3

- I Understand the County Will Contact me if/when Additional Information is Needed and that Information will be Promptly Provided to the County to Support Reporting Requirements

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 4

- If for Any Reason I am Unable to Comply with the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Requirements I will Immediately Notify the County in writing by email or letter

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 5

- All Information Submitted in this Application is True & Accurate

Electronic Signature Agreement

- I Agree

Type name

Ella Montelone

