

| TO BE COMPLETED BY DODGE COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE | |
|--|--|
| Date application received: | |
| Eligible activity under ARPA-SLFRF | |
| Is the project evidence-based and/or disadvantaged | |
| If no, is it potentially eligible under other ARPA Funding | |
| If ineligible, please provide a brief explanation: | |

Dodge County Application
American Rescue Plan Act-State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

This application gathers information required to apply for American Rescue Plan Act-State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received by Dodge County. Dodge County has elected to distribute some funding to applicants to support COVID-19 response efforts to continue to decrease spread of the virus. The funds provide substantial flexibility for Dodge County to meet local needs-including support for households, small businesses, impacted industries, essential workers, and communities. These funds can also be used to make necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. Project funding eligibility and amount will be determined by the Dodge County Board.

To be considered, this form must be completed and returned to the Dodge County Clerk's Office by JANUARY 31, 2022. The proposed project must be consistent with the requirements and guidance specified in the Interim Final Rule. The Interim Final Rules establishes a framework for eligible programs and services. Please contact the Dodge County Clerk's Office to discuss program eligibility and requirements. Return this form to Dodge County Clerk's Office. Applicants will be required to assist the County Clerk's Office to obtain necessary information and documentation to submit to the US Department of Treasury.

Part 1: Applicant Information

1. Applicant Name: **Fremont & Dodge County CVB**
2. Primary Point of Contact Information:
 - a. Name: **Shannon Mullen**
 - b. Title: **Executive Director**
 - c. Agency/Organization/Business: **Fremont & Dodge County C**
 - d. Mailing Address: **529 N. Main St., Ste. 1**
 - e. Email Address: **director@visitfremontne.org**
 - f. Phone Number: **402-753-6414**
 - g. Dollar amount of ARPA-SLFRF received: **\$0**
 - h. Has the Applicant received funding associated with COVID-19 (FEMA Public Assistance, CARES ACT, Coronavirus Relief Fund, CDBG-COVID)? Please list:

N/A - we have received no funding from any of the above.

RECEIVED
 2022 JAN 20 AM 10:28
 CLERK'S OFFICE
 100 N. 3RD ST.
 FREMONT, NE 68001

Part 2: Project Information

1. Please select the project category proposed in this application.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health-COVID-19 Vaccination, Testing, Contact Tracing, PPE, Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing homes, halls, Dense work sites, Schools, etc) Capital investments to change Public Facilities that respond to pandemics, Payroll costs for Public Sector Staff responding to pandemic, Mental Health and Substance Abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities-Education Assistance (Early Learning, Academic Services, Social/Emotional/Mental Health Services) Child Care, Services to families involved in Child Welfare System, Affordable Housing, Homeless, Lead Remediation, Community Violence Interventions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative Economic Impacts-Food Programs, Rent, Mortgage, Utility Aid, Internet Access Programs, Unemployment Benefits, Job Training Assistance, Small Business Economic Assistance, Aid to Non-Profit, Aid to Tourism, Rehiring Public Sector Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure- Clean water (wastewater treatment, wastewater collection and conveyance, sewer overflows, stormwater, energy conservation, water conservation, nonpoint sources) Drinking water treatment, transmission and distribution, lead remediation, storage) Broadband (last mile or other) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Premium Pay-Public Sector Employees, Private Sector Grants to other employers | |

If other, please describe:

2. Project Description

The Fremont & Dodge County Convention and Visitors Bureau is proposing a plan which will allow communities and individuals to assess the needs and create a long-range, sustainable plan allowing us to assist in revitalizing the hard hit travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation industries and accelerate the recovery for those that rely on these sectors.

It is our plan to set aside a specific amount of funding for marketing efforts to provide for recovery and resiliency to areas and organizations that drive Dodge County tourism (i.e. John C. Fremont

- a. Please provide a general description of the project scope of work:

General Description of the project scope of work: The Fremont & Do

- b. Provide a brief narrative of how this project will help Dodge County communities recover from and respond to COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused global economic hardship. The travel industry has been especially hard hit, even more so than during the Great Recession. U.S. travel spending declined an estimated 36% in 2020. The Nebraska travel industry was somewhat

3. Cost Estimate

- a. Total Project Cost: \$750,000.00

- b. Please list applicant contributions and possible local match sources:

All applicants will be required to provide a 25% cash match of total project costs.

By signing below, the applicant agrees to provide additional information/background on the request and all supporting information for grant payments, and the applicant acknowledges that funds received are from federal stimulus grants (formerly CFDA number) 21.027, subject to regulatory and statutory requirements, including regulatory requirements under the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200) and are to be reported under the Single Audit Act and comply with all applicable guidance and regulations therein, including the requirement for a single audit if your entity receives more than \$750,000 in federal funds during the fiscal year. All reporting requirements under the Single Audit Act must be adhered. All guidelines for ARPA must be followed.

Shannon Mullen
Signature



NAME: Shannon Mullen

TITLE: Executive Director

Project Description:

The Fremont & Dodge County Convention and Visitors Bureau is proposing a plan which will allow communities and individuals to assess the needs and create a long-range, sustainable plan allowing us to assist in revitalizing the hard-hit travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation industries and accelerate the recovery for those that rely on these sectors.

It is our plan to set aside a specific amount of funding for marketing efforts to provide for recovery and resiliency to areas and organizations that drive Dodge County tourism (i.e., John C. Fremont Days, Dodge Daze, Old Settler Days, Gun and Coin Shows, Fairs, Swap Meets, etc.).

Additional funds will be awarded to those seeking assistance with a variety of construction and non-construction projects responding to damage to the travel sectors from the pandemic.

The goal is to create infrastructure and support the workforce as well as boost our local tourism industry and ensure that jobs are restored and tourists return safely.

General Description of the project scope of work:

The Fremont & Dodge County Convention and Visitors Bureau (FDCVB) is proposing a plan to manage ARPA funds within Dodge County (Visitors Promotions-Capital Improvement Fund) to aid the tourism industry that was hard hit during the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds (approximately \$75,000.00) will be used by FDCVB to promote area tourism, support local festivals, fairs, events and attractions on a local and regional stage over the next 4 years. Additionally, it is our plan to institute an industry focused grant application. These funds (\$675,000.00) will be awarded to those in the travel, tourism, outdoor recreation industries. These funds will be awarded in grant dollars to community organizations, parks, non-profits, for-profit organizations, and small businesses as they rebuild and strengthen their travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation industry through various projects. It is the intention of the FDCVB to review applications and recommend any projects over \$7,500.00 to the Dodge County Board of Supervisors for final approval.

Organizational Eligibility:

- Facility must be located in Dodge County.
- For-profit and non-profit entities are both eligible. For profit organizations will be capped at \$25,000.00.
- Organizations that have already received support through other COVID-19 relief funds may not be eligible.
- Priority will be given to attractions open to the public, such as, historic restorations, educational sites and facilities, cultural, arts and tourism facilities, participatory sports facilities, outdoor and trail infrastructure, and outdoor recreation promotion.
- Private institutions of higher education.
- City or township governments.
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education.

Eligible Uses of Funding:

- Funds may be used for planned expansions, capital, and new and expanded infrastructure needs.
- Funds can be used to implement COVID-19 mitigation and infection prevention measures to enable safe resumption of tourism, travel and hospitality services.
- Operations and programming costs are not eligible.

Grant Amount:

- Award ceiling is up to \$100,000.00 per application (\$25,000.00 for-profit entities).
- Grants will require a 25% match.

Timeline for Program Administration:

- Grant proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until funds are depleted.
- Funding will be expended by the FDCVB December 31, 2025.
- Funding will be required to be expended by grant recipient by August 31, 2026.
- Final economic impact report must be received to the FDCVB by September 30, 2026.
- Final reports will be reported to Dodge County by October 15, 2026.

Brief narrative of how this project will help Dodge County communities recover and respond to COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused global economic hardship. The travel industry has been especially hard hit, even more so than during the Great Recession. U.S. travel spending declined an estimated 36% in 2020. The Nebraska travel industry was somewhat more affected, experiencing an estimated decline of 39.7% in travel spending. Travel spending declined 39.7% from \$3.5 billion in 2019 to \$2.1 billion in 2020. Direct employment experienced a loss of approximately 7,290 jobs across the state. This represents a 18.1% decline in travel employment. The largest amount of job losses occurred within accommodations and food services sector, which lost 4,260 travel-generated jobs. Tax receipts generated by travel spending were down 32.1% compared to 2019. Local and state taxes have declined 40.2% and 29.2% respectively. Overnight visitor volume has decreased from 6.5-million-person trips to 4.6-million-person trips. This represents a decline of 29.5%. Tourism is the Nebraska's third largest industry, and it benefits all Nebraskans, directly or indirectly. It pours money in the economy, strengthens our cities and helps sustain small businesses in our towns. And more than that, tourism affirms the value of our state to both residents and outsiders. Under this plan, FDCVB will accelerate the recovery of the communities within Dodge County.