

Budget Hearing

Red Bridge Mid-Content Library

1/26/23

Mike Lally-\$100K dollars for the purchase of public works, parks and recreation, assessment and administrative departments. KCMO is a partner, Clay County, Lee's Summit, RideKC, Overland Park, Topeka, etc. Uses include: understanding economic activity, roadway maintenance, visiting through parks facilities, compliance opportunities-arpa dollars are a focus.

Doug Langner-1st district resident, hope faith homeless assistance, sheltering 134 people, doing more than double their shelter designation. As of January 11th, 1042 people served. Dollars for centralized homeless campus. \$100-\$150K. Serve breakfast and lunch at .30cents, they need people and operational support. They participated in CleanUp KC, paying \$18 dollars and hour to do litter mitigations in the city will providing financial incentive.

Sarah Hemme-Reproductive equity that may not be offered in our state, assist people with traveling funds to obtain health care equity. This is in support of the \$1 million dollars travel plan. Also, support the blue river plan to shore up the 60 plus miles of trails.

Robert Thorpe-art gallery owner, small business, has about 6K artists ranging from music, dance, culinary, athletes. It is a social space that doesn't requiring drinking, but just to come and enjoy the arts but they need funds. Pulling artists together to support their local artists.

Billy Zelher-(returning) Support Robert, small business needs dollars. Untap KC, for a \$1Million dollars for art. Thinks Hope Faith should receive over \$3 million dollars for their needs.

Josh Kimbrough (returner)-small business owner, following untapped society, ambassador sage with the trades council. Businesses are the background of our community, Camello with the popup gallery. Important to stand behind our businesses, support mental health needs, housing and making sure folks stay off the streets. Support Ez's proposal to the tune of \$15 Million dollars

Christina Jasso-(audit questions) Guadalupe Centers. Supporting the organizations that previously suggested

John Simpson-vice president of our revolution kc. It is not right to let the royals and chiefs to treat Jackson county as their personal piggy bank. Jackson County need to know the details of their support for new and renovated stadiums and the 2026 world cup. The citizens demand a direct return on their speculative investment plan, this is another trickle down economics ploy. The world cup requires this investment. We ask the following questions: There is a limit on the amount that Jackson county can spend on all it's programs and stadiums. It reduces the amount for vital and central services for Jackson County. The question I have, what is the best in dollars of the amount in the investment, that Jackson county and the sports authority will be obligated for each of these three year periods. 27-31, 32-52 or end of any lease. If you don't know the answer to the question, do not increase the amount.

Kristen Wood-Representing Goodwill of Western MO and Eastern KS, providing employment services and workforce programs for over 100 years. Provide a wide variety of services, including occupational training, employment and reentry services. The need is great and additional investment is needed for

1/26/2023

2

these wrap around services. Completed a community needs assessment in the 3 mile radius, 17K people don't have a high school diploma, 6500 people are unemployed, lack of mental health. Three different recommendations, support continued investments in housing, healthcare, wrap around services, \$3million allocated to outside agencies, increased in that. Noticed that roughly \$1million dollars was unspent. Combat received an increase that they support. Their artimus program creates funding opportunity for funding from arpa or health fund. 85% graduation rate, and placement of \$17.5 for the 82% placement rate.

Tracie Rice-In district 3, live in un-incorporated part of Jackson County. For decades they have gone without, no one takes care of us. They have done community cleanups, they need streets, they have no drainage system, when it rains it runs into their basements and floods them. They need a new sewer system. The last thing that Jackson County did for them was in the 80's. They need streetlights. They have had 30 arson fires in a month, they are talking about homes. They need codes enforcement to work with us. The biggest want is a community center, they have no where for communities to go beyond their fire department. They have no place to host community meetings. I am very active from my community, I will be emailing constantly until I start seeing something done for blue summit. They don't have a food pantry close enough for my family to benefit from. They need student assistance programs, with homework, to support families with food needs. They need medical access, they could set up job search programs for their unemployed, do AA meetings for community members who need. They get to do 2 neighborhood cleanups, they have plenty of needs but they will take anything they can get. We are your priority,

Brad Luct-support the KC community gardens, they support 670 community gardens reaching kids in schools, and food deserts. \$30 dollars for community garden that could buy seeds and plants, equating to \$20K dollars for the amount of people it would impact.

Viola Maxwell-support brad, hope house, and tracie, and mr. johnson.

Geoff Jolley-LISC. (handout) a community and development institution that has been around for 40 years, based in new York and do work in about 2500 rural counties. Think of them as a bank with a mission. Work with people who have historically been disinvested or uninvested. LISC works in three pillars: affordable housing, financial stability, and economic development. Would voice in support of small business requests, seen significant disinvestment and any resources that can be allocated will lead to economic benefit. If you are a renter, you are likely spending twice as much money on housing costs along. Housing is a critical piece of all of these issues. \$2.5 million for minor home repair program as preservation strategy. Working with existing minor home repair program. Housing trust fund could be created, the city allocated \$25 million but ask for at least \$12.5 million to support at least 500 additional units for families. 100K households are cost burdened now.

Abraham sisay-here today to support Eze, planning to move his businesses. He hired 65 employees to support businesses. There needs to be a focus, Dos Case media, he works with communications to provide focus on mental health in multiple communities. He met with council members after trying for a year. He supports therapeutic programs that helped him. He works with a lot of big companies and sees where the dollars come from.

1/26/2023

3

Azikiwe-here to support small businesses, creates content for folks across entrepreneurs in kc. Here to ask for \$15 million to support small businesses in Jackson county. If those businesses had money.

Ruben Alonzo-Altcap, here representing CDFI's to also represent the community capital fund. Here to support the small businesses here in the room. They want to be a solution, to help small business have access to capital. For AltCap, the goal is to provide accessible access to capital for mission driven organizations. They serve organizations that are commonly overlooked by traditional banks. They have the opportunity to get capital to small businesses, between 2020-2022-they have deployed \$13million dollars to small business during the pandemic. They got funds out faster than PPP, made \$8million dollars available to small businesses who couldn't get money from banks. Asking us to commit the \$20 million dollars that Jackson county committed to with the federal government.

Nigel Johnson (returning member)-small business advocacy, property manager, 4th generation community investor. They started working with linc, center school district to teach entrepreneur classes, budget, financial literacy. They heard the challenges of the pandemic impacting small businesses. Some had to decide, do I pay my employees or feed my children. Not everyone qualified for PPP, so it is critical that we continue to support businesses that are overlooked.

Jeff Frays-shady farms. On Sep. 16, 2020 his sister went to ex husbands house and gave her 17 year old son a hug and then shot herself. She had gone through a 4 year bout with mental health issues. That was life changing. He is an alcoholic, and has been sober for a couple months. He went through a lot after she passed. In April of 2021, he moved into the farm house at 55th and bales. After moving into the farm, he planted a willow tree in his backyard. He has two acres behind his home. A friend came who was an alcoholic and started going through withdraws while on the farm. Another guy stumbled on to the farm who was from the streets, they all worked together to build up this farm. He got some animals, picked up pigs, picked up goats, been through two liters of piglets. As we started building it, people started coming to the farm to work through withdraws. People came to start healing. He had a Medicare job right before he started the farm. The farms has been able to get by through just donations. Hundreds of people have been to the farm. Bobby got in contact with me about his fentanyl overdose. After That he became suicidal. He said he was either going to kill himself or come to the farm, so he started working and he is still going strong. He would like to build 3 tiny homes, he needs to work on the animal quarters and needs staff, merchandise, website and social type of help and cameras to help with security-\$177k to start. He wants to grow.

Latasha James-Small business owner. Concerned about the investment in office space, then small businesses. Every small business who fought to keep their businesses open. Jackson County has prioritized everything else beyond just small businesses. We are curious what steps need to be made to make sure that we are heard.

Kerris Herrington-kc gift, helps fund small black owned businesses east of troost. We pushed right under a \$1million in capital in this area last year, they received over 350 grant applications last year. They work daily to make sure folks get funded. No one fights the fight harder than Eze does. Black business owners are struggled. They don't do credit checks; they don't operate applications that focus on restrictive efforts. We know you will do the right thing. It will get us further than any other time, if you allocated \$15 million dollars.

4/26/2023

4

Kortney Lee-small business owner lobby for the \$15million dollars. No one can suspect to take a 6-month closures and expect to survive. He went from going to \$400K a year to going to \$12K a month, operates at only 5% of operations. Now he has accrued debt. He is in the perishable business, and he had to buy another \$45K in product to sell.

Erick Mulondayi-Eze brought us here. He moved her five years ago and is a small business owner. Support eze's plan

Mark Wood-small business owner, not a public speaker owns a roofer, gutter and solar company. He would like to ask for 15.5 million dollars towards small businesses to get more folks back to work. Let's make our city a pretty city. The pandemic has taken away from the people. Everyone is smoking dope and playing video games. Let's put people back to work. He is a native American business owner. What if we gave a tax incentive to fix up their homes. He does not support abortion fund.

Amanda Brown-small business owner, supports the proposal. Supports give kc. She also supports hope faith ministry, as she was a houseless person who lived from her car. She went from a person experiences homelessness to a small business owner.

Rhonda Gibson-everything she was going to say has been said, she is over the regional Gibson memorial foundation in 88-89. She has been building small businesses, and supports the 7 days of Kwanza. The small businesses is the glue, and should be supported because it touches everything.

Eze Redwood-(returning business owners)-He believes in the entrepreneurs who are up here and are inheriting a lot of the problems and want to work with the new legislatures and want to work with Troy Schulte. He appreciates the time, and the entrepreneurial organizations that help them survive, they pay out of their own pockets. Entrepreneurs are taxed multiply times, and Jackson county is one of the least friendly taxing jurisdictions already.

John Sharp-former council member and community advocate. Basic fairness, every county in the state, except Jackson county, is required to spend 25% on road and bridge projects to focus on the city. Jackson County was able to exempt themselves from it through the state. The county, although not required, voluntarily to direct these funds towards the county urban road systems fund to pay for projects like Longview road. The county should amend the budget and reallocate at least 25% on high priority street and bridge projects within the city. It is a matter of equity.

Geoff Geroge-he is a serial entrepreneur. There is a blueprint to being funded. The system is set up, it's called business credit. If you have an ein number you can get funding of 100K a year in business credit. He is in the process of gathering groups of 7 people to focus on these methods.