

1/28/23-Budget Hearing Notes

Kim Randolph-Representing the heartland black chamber. She shared that her chamber, in collaboration with the greater kc Hispanic chamber of commerce just received a federal earmark to acquire a building and create the first ever joint innovation center. She is seeking staffing up now and needs support in the tune of \$150K to drive staff to work force and small business development efforts, empowering ESO's to help with the development of growth within our city. The Minority economic development efforts seeking \$250k

Carlos Gomez-President of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, starting their 43rd year and one of the national founders of the US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. They will be the first in the nation to house the black and brown chambers of commerce within one building. They are seeking programming funding, \$150K to increase the staffing of the current organization to bring in three employees to assist with the demands of their small businesses served within their community. If we don't have a health small business

Shawna Murrell-she is the owner of a black owned reality firm. There is a divide in home ownership for black home ownership. There has been an increase of development in the eastside. She is seeking \$3Million dollars to acquire 16 additional properties, to renovate them for buyers who are perhaps not mortgage ready, perfect picture initiative would allow them to acquire and rehab at least 16 properties to transition folks to home-owner, for a lease to own model of 24 months and support them through home owner, and financial support services. \$2million would go towards the inventory, \$1million would go towards the education purposes.

Sharonne McGee-here to talk about the Murrell Homes education program. The program includes a home buyer information program. Folks are commonly not prepared to take on home ownership. Folks are also going to be taught about home maintenance programs. This program will also include a down payment assistance program and training, that would provide up to 2,500 dollars towards a downpayment assistance program.

Keshe Cenady-paint the picture program, through Murrell Homes. This educational program will also include owner vs investor trainings for folks. The education gap for home ownership is important to their company but also the community to not only transition into home ownership but also maintain these properties.

Bryan Murrell-Also on picture perfect program, through Murrell homes. He talks about the rehab portion of the homes and the impact it has on the community. As a child he would constantly see abandoned homes and would throw rocks at the windows and vandalize them, until Mr. Fraser should up. Then he realized that throwing rocks doesn't lift up the neighborhood. He wants to engage neighborhood kids into the process to pay them to uplift their community, he gives back to his community by supporting his neighborhood association through purchasing of dumpsters, etc. He is working with the city manager to identify illegal dumping.

Josh Kimbrough-(third meeting attended)In support of the \$15.5 million dollar program towards small businesses.

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Marquita Taylor-On behalf of the Satchel Paige home and the Santa Fe neighborhood association. They are in the process of rehabbing that house through partnerships with the National Historic Trust, they provided \$250K dollars, \$500K was diverted from the state to build up that project, to further stabilize efforts and utilize the house to turn it into a museum and event space. There will be space for small businesses inside the building. They seek additional funding to bring additional funding towards the project, they need \$4.5 million dollars to renovate the house. It's on the register for two reasons, it was the first neighborhood that African Americans could move into and secondly, because of the homes occupant. They would like to seek support to fund this effort.

Kenneth Yancy-

Here representing the central families. They have received funding for health forward, and others. Their program is designed to create greater broadband equity across the inner city. There are three things that prevent folks from connectivity. They are seeking \$573K dollars, to reach more families. They have reached 73 families thus far. They are driving towards solving the digital divide, there are 19K people in that catchment area. Their data shows them that in that corridor there are 15K people who are unconnected.

Kenneth Ford-

Founder of the Descendent Freedom Alliance of KC. Their program is designed to bring together a community of black and indigenous roots and are seeking funding for a celebration that has been historically gathered in KC. Their historical organization commemorates the contributions of these communities. The Season of Freedom has been coined by one of their members because of the 1866 treaty was signed in August, they are requesting \$15-\$20 thousand dollars to help with their celebration. DFAKC.com for more information.

Sasj Kya (2nd meeting attended)-

A small business owner who believes each person can either provide a good or service. Her in support of Eze's \$15 million dollar program to support small businesses.

Charlie Lona-

Chairman of the Central Westside Neighborhood Association. He has been working all summer to restore the Southwest Blvd fountain, the gym and pool problems at Tony Aguirre Community Center, and the wading pool expanded at Jarboe Pool. So far, they got a resolution from the city to include these projects in the priorities list from question 1, after the passage the city then suggested that they only have enough funds to reopen the pool at Jarboe Park. He swam in that pool back in the 50's, in the meantime they believed they secured money in the budget. How is this stated in the budget? We need those funds to continue the project. The fountain project may need to be expanded, to combine it with a location for a museum for Chicano heritage. Frank White's commitment was for \$1 million dollars.

Ron Finely-

Harvested Food Program, he is a supporter of the program of an additional \$1 million. Furthermore he wanted to support an additional \$3 million dollars for Swope and Samuel Rodgers. As for outside organizational funding, he would like to see the Palestine Senior Center to be supported. The Healthy

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eastside program, funded at about \$10 million for the treatment for covid, and testing, and those efforts that was mainly administrated by UMKC. And finally, Housing resource commission.