

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 18, 2023

To: Executive Leadership Team

From: Kerri Ishmael, Senior Analyst, Grants Administration

CC: Finance Liaisons and Department Heads

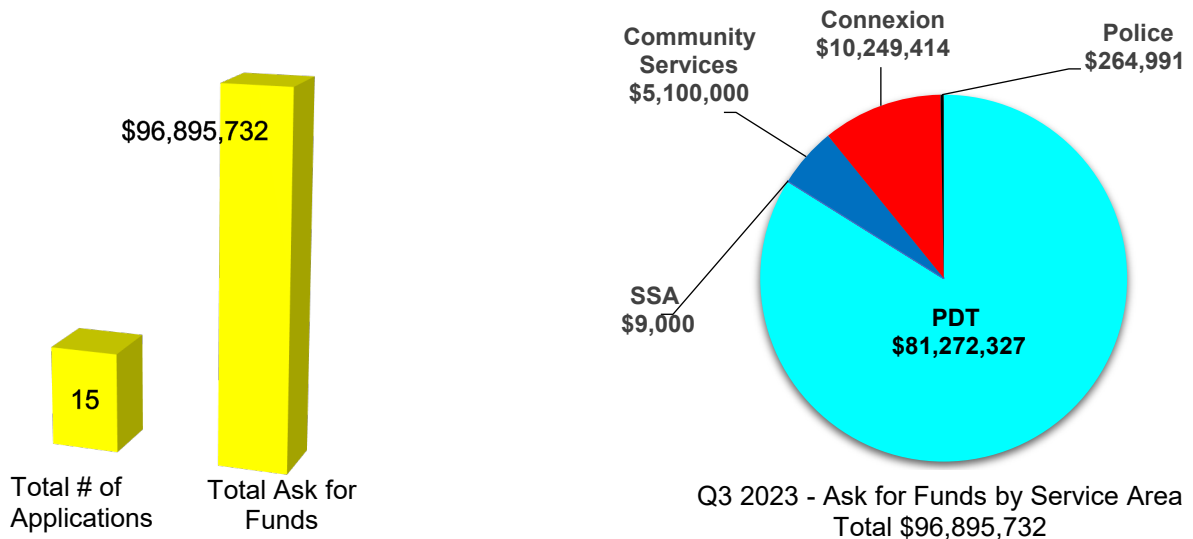
Subject: **Q3 2023 Grants Update**

Summary

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on grant opportunities pursued during Q3 2023 and notice of awards received during Q3 2023, as well as view of Q4 offerings and known pursuit of funds.

Reported grant information relates only to federal and state grant opportunities. All private grant opportunities, as a part of philanthropic funding, are supported, tracked, and reported through City Give. Information provided below is further divided by Service Area, with key highlights by departments in pursuing these funding opportunities, as well as awards by departments having a significant impact on our communities that align directly with the City's strategic objectives.

Funding Opportunities Applied for in Q3



A total of 15 funding opportunities were pursued during Q3 2023, totaling \$96,895,732, with asks varying from multi-million-dollar infrastructure upgrades and investments to replacement of gas-powered lawn and garden equipment in support of reducing the City's carbon footprint. Specifically:

- Transfort put forth an ask for **\$72 million** under the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Small Starts Capital Investment Grant program for the West Elizabeth Corridor project. The project proposes a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service along the corridor, with incorporation of a consistent sidewalk and bike network. The focus being to respond to current and future multimodal transportation needs by increasing and improving transit offerings, as well as bicycling and walking infrastructure.
 - The West Elizabeth Corridor will provide multimodal transportation options to connect to Colorado State University's (CSU) Foothills Campus, CSU's Main Campus, and the Mason Express Bus Rapid Transit (MAX), which reaches both the Downtown Transit Center and South Transit Center. In connection with CSU's Foothills Campus, Transfort more recently was awarded **\$10.7 million** under the Department of Transportation's (DOT) highly competitive Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant program to support the Foothills Transit Station, with a roundabout at the intersection of Overland Trail and West Elizabeth. This project supports connections west of the CSU campus along the West Elizabeth Corridor.
- PDT's FC Moves in collaboration with Engineering and Traffic put forth an ask for the ***Citywide Arterial Street Low Stress Bike Network Implementation*** project in support of:
 - An **implementation project** along the Harmony Corridor from JFK Parkway to I-25 West Frontage Road for incorporation of separated bike lanes, bike phasing at signals, traffic signal timing improvements and vehicle lane narrowing. Proposed mitigation measures support the City's (1) [Vision Zero Action Plan](#) to mitigate speed-related risks and to reduce serious injuries and fatal crashes and (2) [Active Modes Plan](#) to provide safe facilities in support of increased active modes users.
 - A **supplemental planning project** that expands on the [Active Modes Plan](#) to identify specific causes of crashes and explore feasibility of various arterial improvements such as separated bike lanes, protected intersections, lane diets and road diets. The study will include 27 miles of arterial roadways bounded by College Avenue, Horsetooth Road, Overland Trail and Laporte Avenue.
 - A **demonstration activity** to test the effectiveness of temporary protection along Centre Avenue from Worthington Circle to Bay Drive. The project proposes the use of temporary separators (flexible posts) to compare before and after data on multimodal usage and vehicular speeds. This pilot project is ideal in testing the effectiveness of countermeasures as a means of providing access to safe active modes of transportation.

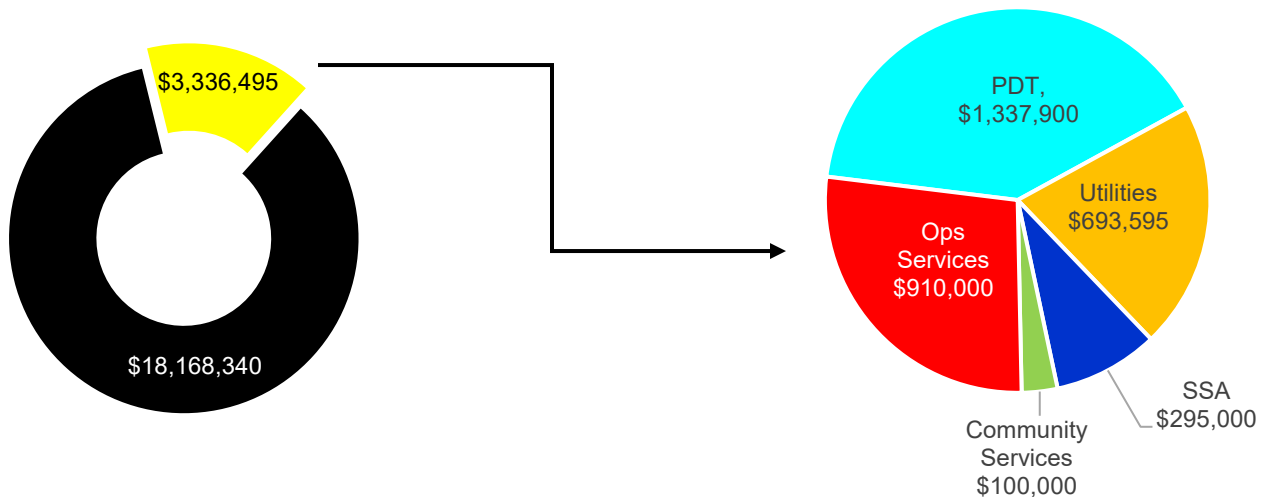
Total project costs are \$10.1 million, with a request for **\$8 million** from DOT's FY23 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant program.

- PDT's FC Moves in collaboration with Engineering, with support from Natural Areas and Parks, put forth an ask under the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant program. The City, in partnership with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Larimer County, requested **\$803,000** in support of a Community Planning Grant. The project, which is partially within Fort Collins city limits and partially within the City's growth management area, will address the barriers and burdens caused by US 287/College Ave by planning for safe and comfortable pedestrian and bicycle facilities along north College Ave and parallel routes. The planning area is bounded by College Ave on the north, Redwood Street on the east, the Poudre

River on the south and N. Shields Street on the west. The City will work with the community, including members of the City’s largest mobile home communities (Poudre Valley Mobile Home Community, North College Mobile Home Community and Hickory Village) in identifying preferred alternatives for safe and equitable access to daily destinations. The project will also explore additional connections via a regional trail spur and potential connections through future City-owned natural areas, with the goal in developing 30% design for preferred alternatives.

- Recreation put forth an ask under the new Climate Resilience Challenge Grant program, part of the state’s Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund, to support design and construction of the Southeast Community Recreation Center. The City, in partnership with Poudre River Public Library District (PRPLD) and Poudre School District (PSD), is committed to building a community center that supports a multipurpose innovation area, outdoor aquatics facility and potential future indoor aquatics facility. PRPLD will fund separately a full service library to be located within the Southeast Community Center, with PSD donating the 10-acres of land PSD Donated Land. The City requested **\$5 million** to support funding for completion of proposed Phase II of the Southeast Community Center, which increases the size and scope of the facility. The ask aligns with grant program goals, as well as plans and priorities of the City and priorities of the Governor, including providing equitable access to recreational experiences and multimodal transportation options; reaching goal of 100% renewable energy through a LEED, Gold build that incorporates solar power; providing affordable and accessible childcare; and utilizing the facility as a communication hub to support the community during an emergency event.
- Connexion, in partnership with Larimer County, put forth several asks under the Colorado Broadband Office’s Capital Projects Fund Broadband Infrastructure Grant program, to fund broadband infrastructure for unserved and undeserved locations. The ask for funds supports providing reliable and equitable broadband to the rural communities of: (1) Risk Canyon; (2) Poudre Park; (3) Red Feather Lakes and (4) Rustic to Colorado State University Mountain Campus. A total of **\$10.2 million** was requested from Colorado Broadband, with Larimer County and Poudre Valley REA contributing the remaining \$3.4 million of total project costs.

Funding Opportunities Awarded Q3 2023



A total of **6 awards, totaling \$3,336,495** were received **during Q3 2023**, corresponding to efforts by many departments in support of furthering existing programs, as well as supporting new opportunities that align with several strategic objectives of service areas. Specifically:

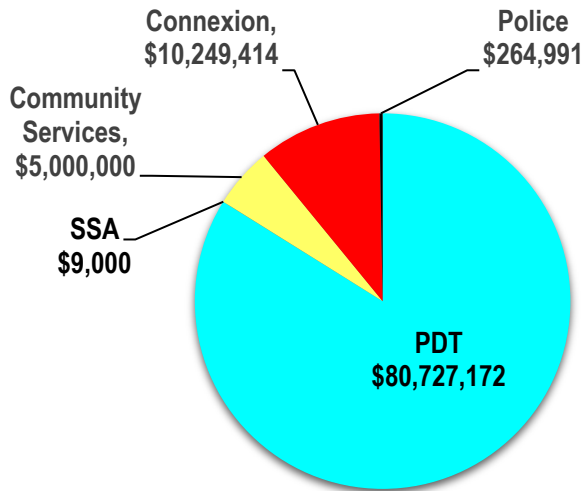
- Parks successful ask for **\$100,000** under the Regional Air Quality Council's (RAQC) Mow Down Pollution Grant program, with 100% of such funds provided by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. In addition to the \$100,000 provided through RAQC, the City will provide an additional \$35,000 to replace gas-powered lawn and garden equipment with rechargeable or corded electric-powered alternatives, which supports the City reducing its carbon footprint.
- Energy Services being awarded **\$693,595** from the Department of Energy (DOE) in support of a collaborative project in development and implementation of a zero-carbon code standard for future builds. The City was the only municipality to receive an award through the DOE's Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation Program implemented through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), with only twenty-seven national awards. Energy Services is collaborating with the Colorado Energy Office, University of Central Florida, and International Code Council on the project that spans the next few years.
- Operation Services awarded the full ask of **\$910,000** from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's new Clean Fleet Vehicle & Technology Grant program in support of replacing light, medium and heavy-duty vehicles with compressed natural gas (CNG) fueled vehicles in support of lower emissions, reduced fuel costs and improved fuel efficiency, as well as electric-powered vehicles.
- Environmental Sustainability's successful ask under the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) Waste Diversion on the Front Range enterprise fund to upgrade equipment at the Timberline Recycling Center. The **\$295,000** awarded from the state will allow for the addition of equipment to increase recycling capacity, as well as replace equipment that has reached the useful life. Considering the Timberline Recycling Facility supporting Fort Collins and neighboring cities and towns, these upgrades, and replacements to increase recycling capacity will further increase waste diversion.
- PDT's FC Moves in collaboration with Engineering and Traffic successful ask for **\$1.3 million** under the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (CO DOLA) IIJA Local Match program in support of meeting, in part, the required match associated with the \$10.1 million in project costs proposed for the **Citywide Arterial Street Low Stress Bike Network Implementation** project. The \$1.3 million is contingent on the City receiving the full ask for funds from DOT under the FY23 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant program. The DOT is proposed to announce awards in December 2023.

Outcome in relation to the \$18,168,340 in ask for funds includes a \$3.2 million request under the FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities Grant program in support of updating the City's remaining bus stops to current American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. In addition, Transfort put forth an ask under FTA's Low or No Emission Grant program for four battery electric buses and associated equipment for buses and Transit stations, totaling \$7.7 million. While not successful in either request for funds Transfort repurposed these efforts in Q4, as noted below, under the North Front Range MPO's 2023 Call for Projects.

The City was awarded **18%** of total requested funds.

The City is awaiting the outcomes on several grant applications, with total asks of \$96.3 million.

Pending Funding Asks



12 Applications in Q3, Totaling \$96,250,577

A Look Ahead at Q4 2023

BIG efforts by FC Moves, Engineering and Transport in response to the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization's (NFRMPO) 2023 Call for Projects. Here's a quick look at the request for funds in Q4.

For those not connected to the purpose of the NFRMPO, as noted [HERE](#) the NFRMPO is required by the federal government as it covers ~ 675 square miles in Northern Colorado, including the City of Fort Collins. Elected officials from each member government, which includes City of Fort Collins, and representatives from state departments sit on the [Planning Council - NFRMPO](#), which enacts the policies, plans and recommendations of the NFRMPO. The NFRMPO provides funding for transportation projects, as well as regional transportation planning and other valued services in support of each member government. Source of funding is from both federal and state grant programs.

The NFRMPO 2023 Call for Projects requests applications for eligible projects under several federal funding programs, including the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Treatment Block Grant (STBG), Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Transportation Alternatives (TA) program. A total of \$22 million is available for allocation under these federal programs. Member governments responding to the request for projects by NFRMPO submitted applications by October 6th, with the [Planning Council - NFRMPO](#) making recommendations on funding in January 2024.

PDT's *Engineering* put forth requests totaling **\$8 million** corresponding to the:

College and Trilby Intersection Reconstruction project - Request for **\$1.7 million** to fill the funding gap for the project estimated at \$16.7 million. The City has funds committed through other federal and state grants, as well as City funds.

Power Trail project – Request for **\$3.2 million** to fill the funding gap needed in completing the last gap in the Power Trail, providing connectivity from the Poudre River Corridor to the Big Thompson Corridor.

Taft Hill Corridor project (from north of Horsetooth Road to south of Brixton Road) – Request for **\$3.1 million** on behalf of both the City and Larimer County, as majority of project is in unincorporated Larimer County. The City and Larimer County will partner on this project in support of addressing congestion and safety issues through incorporation of a 4-lane arterial street, curb and gutter improvements and a raised protected side path for pedestrian and bicycle lanes.

PDT's *FC Moves* put forth requests totaling **\$2.3 million** corresponding to the:

Taft Hill Crossing Improvements Project – Request for **\$1.5 million** for design and construction of pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements at the S. Taft Hill Road intersections with Imperial Drive and Brixton Road. Both intersections are recommended in the City's Active Modes Plan, supporting equitable access to safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Mason Trail Crossing Improvements Project – Request for **\$822,000** for design and improvements to existing at-grade crossings of Mason Trail and W. Prospect Rd., Spring Creek Trail, W. Harmony Road, and Southeast Frontage Road. Proposed improvements include trail widening, queue space widening, trail relocation, ADA ramp improvements, improved landings, new sidewalk connections, and signal improvements.

Transfort put forth requests totaling **\$2.8 million** corresponding to:

Upgrades to Transfort Bus Stops for ADA compliance – Request for **\$538,000** in support of upgrading several of the remaining sixty-seven bus stops. This project supports the goal of having all four hundred and fifteen bus stops owned and maintained by Transfort fully compliant with ADA standards.

Purchase of Battery Electric Buses (BEBs) – Request for **\$2.24 million** to replace two heavy-duty, compressed natural gas fueled buses that have surpassed their useful life with BEBs. The proposal aligns with many City plans and goals, including Transfort's goal of a full zero-emission fleet.

Reminder - To support departments in their pursuit for federal and state grant funds, to ensure that we are capturing all pursuits, regardless of outcome, and to understand the time commitment and effort that goes into an application, it is incumbent upon each Service Area to ensure their FA's and/or FL's, along with Grants Administration, are aware of members' pursuit of these funding opportunities. Steps are in place, which include advising members to complete the [Grant Pre-Application Form](#) on the Grants Administration SharePoint page or to email Grants.development@fcgov.com.