CITY OF FOX LAKE

248 E. State Street, P.O. Box 105 Fox Lake, Wisconsin 53933-0105 920-928-2280 920-928-6288 www.cityoffoxlake.org



January 14, 2022

Dodge County Board Chair Russell Kottke 127 East Oak Street Juneau, Wisconsin 53039

Dodge County Administrator James Mielke 127 East Oak Street Juneau, Wisconsin 53039

RE: **Dodge County ARPA Allocation**

Dear Chair Kottke and Administrator Mielke:

We would like to thank you both and the entire Dodge County Board of Supervisors for considering requests from municipalities for ARPA funds. As you know, it is the local government that is closest to the people, the most accessible and in our opinion, has the greatest positive impact on our quality of life. No matter how these funds are spent, it will have a positive impact on the lives of everyone in Dodge County.

Representing one of the smaller cities in Dodge County, our initial thought is that any money the County decides to allocate to municipalities should be on a prorated basis based on population. This would ensure a fair and equitable distribution for all residents of Dodge County.

The City of Fox Lake is submitting four requests for your consideration. On two requests, we have indicated a specific dollar amount. Even if we have requested a specific dollar amount, we are open to any amount being allocated towards these projects. We are grateful for the allocation of any money to the City of Fox Lake.

Our requests are being submitted in four separate attachments and are as follows:

- -Tourism support
- -Restroom at Clausen Park
- -Ambulance
- -Development of real estate/water/sewer.

We have also enclosed two letters of support from members of our community.

City Administrator Kelly Crombie will be present in Juneau on Tuesday February 1, 2022 if there are any questions on this request.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our requests as well as from municipalities across Dodge County.

Kelly glands Respectfully submitted,

Kelly J. Crombie City Administrator Mayor

Enclosures

County Board Supervisor Benter CC:

City of Fox Lake Common Council

City of Fox Lake Request for ARPA Funds Tourism Support

The City of Fox Lake would like to request the Dodge County Board offer the City of Fox Lake ARPA funds to be used for the purpose of tourism support.

-Project Description-

The City of Fox Lake is requesting \$25,000 or any amount the County wishes to allocate to be used to create a fund to offer support to small businesses in the tourism and hospitality industries that have been adversely affected by the pandemic.

Small businesses are the backbone of the economy. They support and give back to the community in countless ways. The City of Fox Lake has many small businesses that have been adversely affected by the pandemic. Many of the businesses in Fox Lake benefit from the lake and get a significant amount of business from tourists. Financial assistance to small businesses will allow these businesses to promote themselves, stay afloat, implement health safeguards allowing them to stay in business and continuing to benefit the economy.

-Project Timeline-

Upon being awarded the funds, depending on how much was awarded, City staff would develop a plan to present to Council for who would be eligible for applying for a grant under this program. The City Council would approve the parameters. There would then be a period of time in which the City would accept applications before they would be awarded to small businesses. It is anticipated that all funds could be spent in a manner of months. The sooner these funds are made available to businesses, the more likely they will be able to stay in business.

-Project Funding-

This would be a new program for the City of Fox Lake. In the past, the City has offered grants to small businesses for making façade improvements and offered grants to small businesses as part of its pandemic response efforts. The City of Fox Lake this year has also paid for extra copies of the Fox Lake Chamber of Commerce Visitors Guide to be printed allowing the guide to reach further out areas including Reedsburg, Baraboo and the Madison area.

-Use of ARPA Funds-

The entirety of any funds that the City of Fox Lake receives under this program will be used to provide financial support to small businesses. All administrative costs and expenses will be borne by the City of Fox Lake.

-- City of Fox Lake and Dodge County Partnership-

As the oldest community in Dodge County, the County and City of Fox Lake have enjoyed a

long partnership. Dodge County is a beautiful county filled with natural resources. Being on Fox Lake, the City is one of the premier fishing spots in the area. The County benefits from continued visitor supporting the local businesses and economy.

-ARPA Guidelines-

Tourism and hospitality support is a permitted use for ARPA funds. No industry has suffered more because of the pandemic than tourism and hospitality.

City of Fox Lake Request for ARPA Funds Clausen Park Restroom

The City of Fox Lake would like to request the Dodge County Board offer the City of Fox Lake ARPA funds to be used for the purpose of constructing a restroom facility in Clausen Park.

-Project Description-

The City of Fox Lake has been undertaking a project to revitalize and refresh our Clausen Park which is located on Fox Lake. The overall cost to revitalize Clausen Park will exceed half a million dollars. In May, the City will apply for a DNR Stewardship Grant with the hope that the grant will provide for 50% of the costs. The City has committed \$100,000 to this project and has fundraised over \$40,000 from the community.

This plan includes building a new restroom facility which will cost approximately \$80,000. The City would like to request \$40,000 in ARPA funds towards the restroom facility portion of the project. The City intends to use \$40,000 of our own ARPA allocation towards this portion of the project.

The City will score additional points in grant scoring for using our own ARPA funds and will score additional points because of the partnership with the County.

-Project Timeline-

The City of Fox Lake intends to seek grant funding from the Department of Natural Resources this year with the hope that the project will be built in 2023.

-Project Funding-

The City of Fox Lake has already committed \$100,000 towards this project. \$40,000 from the community has been raised towards the project and the City intends to use \$40,000 of its own ARPA funds towards building the restroom facility. The City also hopes to secure DNR grant funding for this project.

-Use of ARPA Funds-

Any funds received will be used towards the construction of a new restroom facility in Clausen Park.

-City of Fox Lake and Dodge County Partnership-

This would be an excellent use of funds for Dodge County and the City of Fox Lake as both locals and visitors alike take advantage of Clausen Park to access Fox Lake. The addition of restroom facilities will make this a worthwhile project.

There has also been talk about extending the Gold Star Memorial Trail to Fox Lake. If this trail

is ever extended, Clausen Park would likely become a terminal on the trail making it even more important that Clausen Park have adequate restroom facilities.

-ARPA Guidelines-

Proper restroom facilities will help to mitigate the risk of Covid. Health and sanitation would be a permitted use of Covid funds.

City of Fox Lake Request for ARPA Funds Ambulance

The City of Fox Lake would like to request the Dodge County Board offer the City of Fox Lake ARPA funds to be used towards the purchase of a new ambulance for the Fox Lake Fire Association.

-Project Description-

The City of Fox Lake receives EMS services through the Fox Lake Fire Department which is operated by the Fox Lake Fire Association comprised of the City of Fox Lake and the Towns of Fox Lake, Trenton and Westford. The group is in need of a new ambulance when fully equipped would cost in the neighborhood of \$250,000. Any amount of ARPA funds towards this purchase would go a long way.

-Project Timeline-

Given the supply chain issues that currently exist, this would be a 2023 project.

-Project Funding-

Depending on the level of support from the County Board on this project, the remainder of the project would likely be funded by the Fox Lake Fire Association based on percentages of the Association. A new ambulance has been discussed by the Fire Association although a commitment has not yet been made to purchase a new ambulance.

-Use of ARPA Funds-

Any funds from this project would go towards the purchase of an ambulance.

-City of Fox Lake and Dodge County Partnership-

Having appropriate ambulance equipment benefits more than just the Fox Lake area. EMS crews are often dispatched to neighboring municipalities for service through mutual aide. Fox Lake has provided mutual aide as requested primarily to the neighboring districts of Randolph, Waupun and Beaver Dam. The Fox Lake Correctional Institution is provided EMS services through a contract with Lifestar of Waupun. However, being that the prison is in our service area, Fox Lake serves as a backup for this purpose. Fox Lake and Dodge County are blessed to have incredibly dedicated first responders who all work together to help residents needing help at what is often one of the most burdensome or troubling periods in their life. It is important that our first responders have the needs tools they need to succeed and help the public.

-ARPA Guidelines-

An ambulance is a permitted use of ARPA funds as it relates to health, safety and sanitation and provides for patients and first responders.

City of Fox Lake Request for ARPA Funds Development of Real Estate/ Water/ Sewer

The City of Fox Lake would like to request the Dodge County Board offer the City of Fox Lake ARPA funds to be used for the purpose of developing real estate and related utilities cost.

-Project Description-

The City of Fox Lake is undergoing the purchase of 61 acres of land in the City of Fox Lake and in the Town of Fox Lake. By February 1, the City should have closed on this purchase. The City of Fox Lake has enjoyed significant recent growth in both business and residential sectors. There is currently a shortage of shovel ready lots for business expansion and new residences. The City of Fox Lake plans to work with developers to develop this for both residential and industrial development. Any amount of money the County wishes to contribute towards this is welcome and appreciated.

-Project Timeline-

The City of Fox Lake will be acquiring this property in January 2022. After acquisition, the City intends on immediately moving forward with reaching out to prospects to begin development. This is a significant undertaking and a significant piece of property which will be developed over several years.

-Project Funding-

The City of Fox Lake is making a significant investment in this project with the purchase of the real estate at \$1,522,650. This does not include any development costs which may vary depending on how the properties end up getting developed.

-Use of ARPA Funds-

Any ARPA funds awarded from Dodge County towards this project would go towards the development of infrastructure including: water, sewer and storm sewer.

-- City of Fox Lake and Dodge County Partnership-

The City of Fox Lake and Dodge County both would benefit from this project. There is currently a shortage of housing in Dodge County. This project provides developable land for both residential and business development. We all benefit from new people and businesses moving to Dodge County.

-ARPA Guidelines-

Utilities are a permitted use of ARPA funds.

Becky Bussian 216 Academy Street Fox Lake, WI 53933

January 20, 2022

Dodge County Board of Supervisors 127 East Oak Street Juneau, WI 53039

RE: City of Fox Lake ARPA Request for Restrooms at Clausen Park

Dear Supervisors,

I am writing in support of the City of Fox Lake's request for ARPA funds to install a new restroom facility in Clausen Park.

I have previously been involved with improving Crocker Street Park in Fox Lake and now, I am part of the Friends of Clausen Park group that is working with the City to improve Clausen Park.

Clausen Park is in a great location with frontage on Fox Lake. The Friends of Clausen Park have been working in tandem with the City towards applying for a DNR stewardship grant. Having adequate restroom facilities will make this park much more usable as residents and visitors to the area will use them. It will also help to prevent the spread of Covid and other communicable diseases by keeping everyone safe.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Beaky Bussian

Sincerely,

Becky Bussian

Fox Lake Chamber of Commerce Vicki Matheys PO Box 94 Fox Lake, WI 53933

January 20, 2022

Dodge County Board of Supervisors 127 East Oak Street Juneau, WI 53039

RE: City of Fox Lake ARPA Request

Dear Supervisors:

I am writing in support of the City of Fox Lake's request of the Dodge County Board for ARPA funds to be used towards tourism and hospitality development.

Fox Lake has an outstanding small business community comprised of many wonderful small businesses. Given our location on and proximity to the lake, many of our businesses are dependent on tourism and travel to make ends meet. As you know, small businesses have been hit hard during the pandemic and this is especially true for hospitality and tourism. Any support that the City of Fox Lake could get from Dodge County would benefit our membership.

The City of Fox Lake has stepped up in the past with grants to small businesses. When we were faced with increased costs of printing the Fox Lake Visitor's Guide, the City stepped up using some of their ARPA funds to help us print the same number of guides as we normally did.

Any money received as part of this program would be very much appreciated, well spent and get into the hands of small businesses who need all the help they can right now to stay in business.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Vicky Matheys
Fox Lake Chamber of Commerce President