

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOHNSON COUNTY ANNOUNCES APPLICATION DATES FOR ROUND 2 OF CARES FUNDING

(Johnson County, MO) Johnson County is making a second round of applications available to request CARES Act funds. In this second round of funding, local governments, non-profits, and small businesses will be eligible to submit an application. Two types of applications, related to necessary expenditures in response to the COVID-19 health emergency, will be accepted:

- Reimbursement only, for the period of March 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020; and
- Preapproval of planned projects, with a completion date no later than December 30, 2020.

Applications for the second round of funding must satisfy the requirements of the CARES Act and Treasury guidance and be based on requests for: (1) reimbursement of eligible expenses or costs already incurred, excluding business interruption; and/or (2) preapproval of planned projects. Applicants will be required to submit sufficient supporting documentation such as quotes, bids, invoices, receipts, and proof of payment. An expenditure detail tracking spreadsheet will also be made available and is required to be submitted, ensuring accurate information is maintained for future auditing purposes.

Applications for the second round of funding will open on August 31, 2020 and are due on September 15, 2020. Applicants may apply for one or both types of applications. The County will then review and evaluate the applications for completeness, compliance with the CARES Act requirements and Treasury guidance, and anticipates making award decisions the week ending October 9, 2020. Award recipients will be required to enter into a written agreement with the County prior to disbursement of awarded funds.

Applications will be available on the County website, www.jococourthouse.com, on August 31, 2020. There will also be additional informational resources made available at that time, including Frequently Asked Questions and an educational video to provide guidance on the application process.

Background:

On March 27, 2020, Congress passed, and President Trump signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and

Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”). The CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund and appropriated \$150 billion to the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Under the CARES Act, the funds are to be used to make payments for specified uses based on the requirements of the CARES Act requirement and United States Department of Treasury guidance. Generally, the CARES Act provides that payments may only be used to cover costs that: (1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19; (2) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 for the government; and (3) were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

Expenditures must be used for actions taken to respond to the public health emergency. Funds may not be used to fill shortfalls in government revenue to cover expenditures that would not otherwise qualify under the CARES Act. Expenditures using CARES Act fund payments must be reasonably necessary. For further information, please refer to the latest guidance issued by the U.S. Treasury.

On April 28, 2020, the County received information and guidance from the office of the Missouri State Treasurer regarding the distribution of CARES Act funds from the State of Missouri to Johnson County. After approving and returning a certification for payment to the State of Missouri, on May 6, Johnson County received \$6,342,551.

The County reviewed the requirements of the CARES Act and the guidance issued by the Department of Treasury and has worked to identify community priorities and develop an application process to allow applicants to request CARES Act funds and make award decisions for the use of funds. The Commission has taken a multi-round approach in distributing the Johnson County CARES Funds, with three anticipated rounds.

In July 2020, Johnson County announced the first round of funding distributions awarded from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. A total of \$801,352.57 was awarded to 19 entities across Johnson County.

On August 14, 2020, Johnson County announced the Rapid Relief-Technology for K-12 Schools, where a portion of the county CARES Act money would be made available to K-12 Schools for technology needs, through a special application process. This application and possible funding will assist those K-12 schools located primarily in Johnson County with timely delivery, integration, and payment for critical virtual learning tools.

Questions regarding the second round application process may be directed to Johnson County Treasurer Heather Reynolds at 660-747-7411 or by email at hreynolds@jocotreasurer.com.

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