

# CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## AGENDA ITEM

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**Petitioner:** Yolanda King, County Manager

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**Recommendation:**

**Receive information from community stakeholders regarding the shelter and housing needs in Clark County and, in particular, the shelter and housing needs of the communities that were disproportionately and negatively impacted by the public health emergency and direct staff accordingly. (For possible action)**

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**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Fund #:	N/A	Fund Name:	N/A
Fund Center:	N/A	Funded PGM/Grant:	N/A
Amount:	N/A		
Description:	N/A		
Additional Comments:	N/A		

**BACKGROUND:**

Clark County was recently awarded \$440 million in State and Local Government Fiscal Recovery Funds (Fiscal Recovery Funds) under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These resources lay the foundation for a strong, equitable economic recovery, not only by providing immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, but also by addressing the systemic public health and economic challenges that may have contributed to more severe impacts of the pandemic among low-income communities and people of color. Low-income communities and workers and people of color have faced more severe health and economic outcomes during the pandemic, with pre-existing social vulnerabilities such as low-wage or insecure employment, concentrated neighborhoods with less economic opportunity, and pre-existing health disparities likely contributing to the magnified impact of the pandemic.

Under ARPA, local governments have been afforded greater discretion in designated low-income areas. There are approximately 100 of these Qualified Census Tracts (QCT) within Clark County. This additional discretion is intended to allow local governments to make investments in housing and neighborhoods to address systematic public health and economic challenges that hinder these communities.

Prior to the public health emergency, the State of Nevada had the fewest affordable available rental homes in the country. In Southern Nevada, there is a shortage of 145,000 in affordable, very low and extremely low-income units. The negative economic impacts of the public health emergency have exasperated the need for affordable and attainable housing in the community. Building stronger communities and neighborhoods through investment in housing and neighborhoods will alleviate the immediate economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on housing insecurity, while addressing conditions that contributed to poor public health and economic outcomes during the pandemic, namely concentrated areas with limited economic opportunity and inadequate or poor-quality housing.

Cleared for Agenda

**07/14/2021**

File ID#

**21-987**

Clark County is requesting community stakeholders to provide a brief overview of potential housing developments and programs designed to address the shelter and housing challenges our hardest hit communities are facing. Eligible programs and services include but are not limited to the following:

- U.S. Treasury will presume that certain types of services, outlined below, are eligible uses when provided in a QCT, to families and individuals living in QCTs:
  - o Services to address homelessness, such as supportive housing, and to improve access to stable, affordable housing among unhoused individuals;
  - o Affordable housing development to increase supply of affordable and high-quality living units; and
  - o Housing vouchers, residential counseling, or housing navigation assistance to facilitate household moves to neighborhoods with high levels of economic opportunity and mobility for low-income residents, to help residents increase their economic opportunity and reduce concentrated areas of low economic opportunity.
- More information regarding eligible services can be found in the attached Interim Final Rule (pages 10 – 33)

Presentations should provide a brief overview of the programs including the following:

- The shelter or housing needs addressed;
- Identify which of the County's attached "Strategic Priorities" the program addresses;
- The location of the services and/or housing development;
- How the services and/or housing development will assist in the community's overall recovery;
- How the services provided will address root causes and lead to sustainable improvements;
- How many individuals, units or households will be impacted;
- Estimated cost of the program;
- The intended outcomes; and
- How the outcomes will be measured.