



KC-49

ARP Application - Kanawha County

Status: Active

Date Created: Sep 24, 2021

Applicant

Allison Smith
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Smithers, WV 25186
304-442-5282

Certification

Digital Signature

Allison Smith
09/24/2021

Contact Information

Organization Name

City of Smithers

Address

2 Greyhound Lane PO Box 489 Smithers, WV
25186

Website (if applicable)

<https://local.wv.gov/smithers/Pages/default.aspx>

Phone Number

304-442-5181

Email Address

allison.smith@wvstateu.edu

Project Summary

1. Brief description of the proposal

This application is for purchase and installation of a new Taylor 250kw diesel generator, located in the City of Smithers' GATEWAY Center.

2. Purpose and key anticipated outcomes

The anticipated outcome is uninterrupted essential public safety and services during times of temporary electrical service disruption and disasters: In inclement weather and disasters a generator will allow essential city functions to continue. Those services dependent on electricity to function are the police department and the 911 area communication system serving area first-responders. In addition, the GATEWAY Center serves as a polling place for area communities, an induction center for the MCA-South Academy, and COVID testing and vaccination. The requested funding will allow the City to purchase and install a gas-powered generator sufficient to power all those services mentioned plus all three kitchens, security cameras, sprinkler system, HVAC, and emergency exit lights; thus, the city could use the GATEWAY Center as a temporary emergency shelter for at-risk populations during natural and man-made disasters.

3. Individuals or communities served

Residents in the City of Smithers and area first responders benefit from services offered from the GATEWAY Center, home to the Smithers Senior Nutrition Center, Starting Points Daycare and Afterschool Care, New River Health (medical, dental, behavioral health and pharmacy), City Police, Municipal Court, Sanitary Department, and City Hall. This generator will allow these essential services and programs to continue during electrical outages.

4. How the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated this request

During the COVID-19 pandemic the city updated its emergency preparedness and found that essential services and communications would be interrupted without this generator; therefore, approval of this request will allow the GATEWAY Center to provide essential services, communication, and emergency shelter when power outages are experienced in the area.

5. Amount of funding requested

143,736

6. Amount of any bids or cost estimates received to date, if applicable

143,735

7a. Amount of matching funds raised or committed by your organization

0

7b. Source of matching funds raised or committed by your organization

N/A

8. How ARP funds, if awarded, will be used

If awarded, these ARP funds would be used for the purchase and installation of a Taylor 250kw diesel generator at the Smithers GATEWAY Center.

9. How long it will take you to complete the project if awarded funding

If awarded funding, the City of Smithers would contract the installation of this generator immediately.

Proposal Details

1. Please describe the problem or need which your project seeks to address

The City of Smithers needs an emergency temporary shelter and to maintain essential services and communications during electrical outages.

2. Please describe goals and expected outcomes of your proposal.

If this funding is awarded, Smithers will be able to provide uninterrupted essential services to its residents during times of greatest need.

3. Please provide your project timeline

The City of Smithers will purchase and install the generator as soon as it receives award notification.

4. Please provide your project's total proposed budget.

See attached quote.

5. Please list any partners in this proposal, and the partner's role and your relationship with them.

N/A

6. Please describe your plan for sustainability of the project or initiative after the grant award has been exhausted.

The City of Smithers will provide funding and contract personnel to oversee maintenance of the generator.

Organization Information

1. Please provide your organization's mission statement.

"Smithers exemplifies the best of small town living in the beautiful Upper Kanawha Valley. It strives to recruit stable businesses and to provide a vibrant, friendly community for residents and visitors."

2. Describe the history of your organization, tell us about your current programs and activities

The City of Smithers was chartered in 1938 with a mission to govern the municipality. Despite the city's recent economic challenges, Smithers is taking a proactive role in building a brighter future. Smithers recently became a "home rule" city, allowing greater agency in creating solutions. The city recently acquired ownership of a former elementary school and oversaw its remodeling into the Gateway, a multi-use community center.

The GATEWAY Center now houses City Hall, including municipal government such as essential services such the police department and 911 communications tower. The city also has long-term leases with several service agencies who occupy the building, including, but not limited to, a county family resource center offering child daycare, meals, and an after-school program, as well as a county-operated senior citizens center providing meals, recreation, and other services to the elderly.

Current programs and activities include a monthly GATEWAY Farmers Market, a monthly Art Night, and weekly Adventure Days during the summer (hosted by Adventure Fayette County). Smithers frequently hosts events, such as local/state/national polling, the recent Shakespeare Dinner Theater and Envision Summit: A Conversation with Ed McMahon. Furthermore, with the newly

designated New River Gorge National Park (30 minutes), the proposed Hatfield McCoy trail development (10 minutes), and the recently purchased Mammoth Preserve two miles outside of city limits, Smithers is poised for increased traffic and development pressure. A generator at the GATEWAY Center promotes safety and sustainability in the area.

3. Please describe three significant accomplishments of your organization.

The City of Smithers has experienced significant accomplishments in recent years. As described above, Mayor D. Anne Cavalier, Ed.D., with the assistance of Smithers City Council and city staff, successfully renovated an elementary school into a vibrant community center. Additionally, Smithers and Montgomery worked together to form the Upper Kanawha Valley Strategic Initiatives Council (UKVSIC). The two cities have coordinated ways to reduce costs and maximize outcomes. The cities have both a shared Sanitary Department Technician and Code Enforcement Officer. The cities' Police Mutual Aid Agreement promotes support and backup among police officers. Through a grant from High Mark, the cities will be adding a Community Health Planning Coordinator in October. Finally, and most notable, the cities hired an Extension Agent (via a partnership with West Virginia State University) who manages grants, builds connections, and supports city activities. In addition to sharing employees, Montgomery and Smithers share heavy equipment such as lift trucks and garbage packers. In short, the communities have each other's backs and step up when the other is in need of assistance, such as temporary shelter. Smithers and Montgomery jointly received a \$40,000 Cultivate WV Grant through the WV Community Development Hub and was also awarded the WV Municipal League's 2021 Cost Reduction/Savings Award.


4. Please list your Owner(s), Board of Directors, senior staff members, or other key members of your organization:

Mayor D. Anne Cavalier; Teresa Dorsey (City Clerk); Frank Hill (Street Department); Councilwoman Alma Bowles; Councilwoman Rhea Cavalier; Councilman Stephen Giannini; Councilman Robert Keglor; Councilman Thomas Whittington, Jr.; Beach Vickers (Grants Consultant); UKV Extension Agent (Allison Smith)


5. Please list the staff involved with this project and describe their roles and responsibilities:

Mayor D. Anne Cavalier, with the assistance of Teresa Dorsey, will oversee administrative tasks. The Street Department will oversee the maintenance contract for the generator once it is installed.

Cash flow statement for applicant's most recent fiscal year

 Smithers Cash Flow.pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:54 pm

Two years of audited financial statements

 Smithers Audit 2018.pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:54 pm

Current operating budget


Smithers Budget.pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:54 pm

If the applicant has not been audited, please include an unaudited balance sheet and income statement as prepared by the applicant



7. List any federal, state, local or private grant awards or funding received in the last three years and the current status of those funds. If your organization has previously received funds from Kanawha County, please list the amount, nature of the project(s) and current status of the funding and project(s).

See attached.

8. If you have made an application for funding for this project from other sources (city, state, private or non-profit organizations) please list the same here.

N/A

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

1. Please explain the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how it relates to your request.

The recent COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated challenges that the City of Smithers was already facing. The Upper Kanawha Valley has experienced both long term and sudden and severe financial devastation. In recent years, Smithers and Kanawha County experienced the rapid decline in profitable coal extraction and processing. In 2017, the relocation of WV Tech brought an economic blow to Smithers, Montgomery, and the surrounding area. With that closure came the collapse of local businesses that had grown over 120+ years to service the needs of the college, faculty, staff, and students. WVU's Bureau of Business & Economic Research estimated an annual negative impact of \$15.2 million on the Upper Kanawha Valley. This impact occurred to an area already considered to be distressed (Appalachian Regional Commission). In recent years, businesses have closed, apartments and houses were left vacant, B&O taxes dropped, and property taxes declined. The COVID-19 pandemic increased these challenges.

2. How will ARP funding, if awarded, aid in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic?

The COVID-19 pandemic worsened challenges that Smithers had already been facing. Installing this generator enhances emergency preparedness and ensures municipal services when they are needed the most.

3. Are you requesting lost revenue due to COVID-19

No






Supplementary Information

1. Please enter contact information (name, email, and phone) for at least one third-party reference.

Smithers Senior Center: Jenni Sutherland (304) 663-7641; Starting Points Day Care Center: Kelly Gladwell (304) 442-0043; Montgomery Mayor Greg Ingram gingram@montgomerywv.gov (mailto:gingram@montgomerywv.gov) 304-442-5181

2. Please include any supplementary information or documentation (such as letters of support, newspaper articles, etc) which you feel will be essential to the County's review.

Attachments

-  Smithers Audit 2019.pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:56 pm
-  Profit and Loss Smithers.pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:57 pm
-  Copy of Grant Spreadsheet.xlsx - Sheet1 (1).pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:57 pm
-  Genator Quote (2).pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:57 pm
-  City of Smithers Comprehensive Plan, 2019.pdf
Uploaded by Allison Smith on Sep 24, 2021 at 1:57 pm