LMC Webinar: The New Normal: Economic Recovery and Resilience in your Community

Presented by Center for Community Vitality, a Center dedicated to helping communities choose their future The Center has 3 sections; Leadership & Civic Engagement, Community Economics, & Tourism

- <u>5 Important Themes & Trends expected to have lasting impacts</u>
- 1. Normalization of remote work
- 2. Accelerated transition to online retail
- 3. Localization of supply chain
- 4. Disparities in impact & recovery
- 5. Increased interest in lower density

• **Opportunities for Vergas**

In the midst of every crisis lies great opportunity, Albert Einstein

- 1. Minnesota State Park usage up 25% and trail usage up 50% in 2020. This is expected to increase. Vergas Trail and Park increased use.
- 2. Focus on Broadband Infrastructure to support remote work, help main street commerce, online education & training. Vergas new smart room important to this.
- 3. Adapt local ordinances to expand outdoor seating and outdoor recreation. Vergas Trail, Park and recreation project for pickle ball.
- 4. Reconsider outdoor spaces, i.e. outdoor art installations, parklets for outdoor dining and distanced gatherings. Vergas discussion of art along trail.
- 5. Supporting reskilling and career pivots, i.e. collaborating with education institutions, support entrepreneurship and incentivize childcare options.

LMC Webinar: Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Introduction

- As part of the 1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan, \$65 billion in recovery funds for all cities of all sizes.
 19.5 billion for cities under 50,000 population with amount allocated according to population share, but not to exceed 75% of most recent budget as of January 27, 2020.
- More funds than the CRF (Coronavirus Relief Funds) and broader eligible uses.
- There will be 2 distributions of the funds. 1st distribution is no later than 30 days after a state receives payment. 2nd distribution 12 months after the first distribution.
- Funds for Cities less than 50,000 will be allocated by population.
- Timeline March 3, 2021 covered period for eligible expenses begins and 2024 spending deadline.
- Reports due periodically to US Treasury.
- Eligible uses include: (specifics still vague and further guidance awaited)
 - Assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits to aid in the response to public health emergency or to aid hard-hit industries as tourism, travel & hospitality.
 - Premium pay for essential workers for work performed by eligible workers during the covid-19 public health emergency.
 - Revenue replacement for the provision of government services to the extent the reduction in revenue due to covid-19 public health emergency related to revenues collected in most recent full fiscal year prior to emergency (FY2019).
 - o Investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure

Recording and slides available on LMC website