

MEMORANDUM

To: City Commission, City of LaBelle
From: Jerika Mungillo, Executive Director, LaBelle
Downtown Revitalization Corporation
Date: [Insert Date]
Re: Request for Increase in Annual City Funding
Attachments: LDRC financial statements; LDRC work
plan; Main Street staffing/accreditation
guidance

The LaBelle Downtown Revitalization Corporation respectfully requests an increase in annual funding from the City of LaBelle from \$21,000 to \$60,000.

The City's current annual contribution was originally structured to support a part-time director position. Since that time, the role and responsibilities of the organization have grown substantially. As the City's designated Main Street organization, LDRC is expected to maintain the staffing capacity necessary to carry out downtown revitalization, historic preservation, economic development support, grant coordination, project development, public engagement, and partnership-building activities that directly benefit the City of LaBelle.

In order to remain in good standing as an accredited Main Street program, the organization is expected to maintain a full-time director. The current level of City funding does not reflect that requirement. This request is therefore intended to align the City's support more closely with the staffing level needed to sustain the program and the work being performed on the City's behalf.

This request is not based solely on a salary need. It is based on the substantial amount of work performed by LDRC that directly benefits the City, including downtown revitalization efforts, project coordination, public-facing initiatives, business support, partnership development, grant work, and implementation of projects aligned with city priorities.

Increasing the City's annual contribution to \$60,000 would allow the organization to more appropriately fund the Executive Director position through municipal support. It would also free existing organizational funds to be directed toward projects, programs, and initiatives that produce visible and tangible benefits within the community. In other words, this adjustment would strengthen the organization's operational foundation while allowing more nonprofit dollars to be put toward implementation, beautification, programming, economic development efforts, and other city-benefiting projects.

For the Commission's review, LDRC is submitting its current financial statements and work plan with this request. These materials are intended to show both the organization's present financial capacity and the scope of work planned and underway. LDRC is also including supporting Main Street guidance regarding staffing expectations for accredited programs so that the Commission may consider this request in its full operational context.

LDRC values its partnership with the City of LaBelle and remains committed to serving as a productive and effective partner in the continued revitalization of downtown. This request is respectfully submitted for consideration as part of the City's upcoming budget discussions.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerika Mungillo
Executive Director
LaBelle Downtown Revitalization Corporation