

**NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL
for FLOOD RELIEF
EMERGENCY GRANT PROGRAM**

I. Background

The Grand County Economic Development Department (EDD) seeks to utilize transient room tax (TRT) funds to create and fund an emergency grant program. This grant program will be deployed in direct response to damages wrought by the August 20, 2022 flooding of Grand County's Mill Creek and will provide relief funds for businesses.

II. Overview

The EDD proposes the creation of a grant program with the aim of supporting businesses in their efforts to address significant damage and/or successfully re-open their businesses after the August 20, 2022 flood. Applicable uses of grant funds include:

Applicable Uses

- Direct clean-up costs
- Renovations, construction costs, and other basic responses to flooding damages
- Machinery and/or equipment replacement(s)

The grant program will be funded from the County's TRT Reserve Fund. The County Attorney has reviewed and authorized this expenditure as per Utah Code § 53-2a-205(2)(a), which authorizes the County to utilize all available resources reasonably necessary to manage a local emergency, and Utah Code § 17-31-2(2)(a), which authorizes the County to spend TRT funds on the development and encouragement of tourism as well as economic diversification activities. Tourism-related requests will be funded by the tourism promotion allocation of TRT funds and non-tourism-related requests will be funded by the economic diversification allocation of TRT funds. The EDD is requesting that the Grand County Commission approve the expenditure of \$250,000 for this program.

Every grant will be eligible to be funded up to \$5,000 or up to 20% of the organization's damage assessment, whichever is greater. Grant awards shall not exceed \$20,000.

III. Costs & Resource Requirements

No application fees will be charged. The EDD will generate the following application resource materials to support applicants:

- At least one (1) webinar guiding prospective applicants through the prerequisites and application process and addressing frequently asked questions
- A list of applicable and disallowed grant fund uses (web only)
- An online feedback form assessing the grant design and application process

IV. Timeline

The following timeline was created by the EDD. Currently, the creation of this program has aligned with the timeline set out:

Date	Engagement	Note
Aug. 29-30, 2022	Proposal review by Grand County Commission Chair and Strategic Development Director	Completed
Aug. 30, 2022	Proposal consideration by Grand County Commission during Emergency Meeting	In Progress
Sept. 1, 2022	Launch of grant program: EDD to conduct community outreach, publish website and resources, and begin accepting applications	Contingent upon approval of program
Sept. 1-18, 2022	Grant application acceptance period: EDD to accept applications during this period, with consideration for applications submitted late	
Sept. 6-19, 2022	Grant application review period: Approval Committee to review applications and award funds on a rolling basis	
Sept. 6, 2022	Grant funds disbursed: As early this date and on an ongoing basis	
Dec. 6-19, 2022	Grantee’s final grant reports due: Within 3 months of receiving initial grant disbursement	

V. Eligibility

Eligible recipients of this program have experienced significant impacts to their businesses' operability AND have little or no access to significant recovery resources (such as flood or other applicable insurance). The intended recipients of this program have experienced these impacts as a direct result of the August 20, 2022 flooding of Grand County's Mill Creek. Unrelated flood claims will render an application ineligible for this grant. Applicants will be asked to explain their situation and how they fit these criteria.

All local businesses shall be eligible to apply to this grant program. Local business shall mean a for- or non-profit business, or a sole proprietor operating under a registered DBA, with its primary place of business registered within Grand County prior to August 20, 2022, which business pays 1099 or W-2 wages to at least one (1) person who has their primary residence in Grand County.

Applicants that complete the Grand County 8-20-22 Flood Damage Assessment Self Reporting form prior to September 4, 2022 will be given priority status.

VI. Evaluation Criteria

The EDD has established the following criteria with which to evaluate applications:

Criteria	Description	Weight
Business Establishment	Prior to the August 20, 2022 flooding event, was the applicant organization established?	Yes/No - applications cannot move forward without a "yes"
Impact Evaluation	Was the damage and/or other stated impact in the grant application caused specifically by the storm and flooding of Mill Creek on August 20, 2022? Was the organization severely affected to the point of inoperability? Did this business need to close or relocate, partially or fully? What is its trajectory for reopening? The Approval Committee shall first prioritize awarding funding to those businesses that were	Deliberative

Grand County Economic Development Department

Proposal: Flood Relief Emergency Grant Program

Submission date: August 29, 2022

	forced to close. In the event funding requests exceed available funding, closure shall constitute a requirement for funding.	
Applicant Resource Evaluation	Does the applicant have insurance to cover their loss, in part or full? Does the applicant need bridge funds because they expect to recover the value of their loss, in part or full, from insurance or other recovery resources? Are the funds requested going to provide an immediate relief that will support direct economic gains? Is the applicant requesting future project funds or reimbursement of prior expenditures?	Deliberative

During the evaluation process, applicants may be asked to provide further information related to their application.

VII. Approval Committee

To maintain impartiality throughout the grant application, disbursement, and reporting process, the EDD shall not participate in the assessment of any applications and shall serve solely as the administrator of this grant program provided, however, that the Grand County Economic Development Director shall have the authority to veto any particular grant award that violates the authority granted by the Grand County Commission to the Approval Committee hereunder.

Application criteria shall be assessed by an Approval Committee appointed by the respective entities listed below:

- Grand County
- Moab City
- Moab Area Chamber of Commerce
- Moab Area Travel Council Advisory Board
- Grand County Economic Development Advisory Board

Each entity shall only appoint representatives without Restricted Conflicts of Interest, as defined by the Grand County Ethics Ordinance No. 593 (2019), with any affected businesses. If a Restricted Conflict of Interest is disclosed or arises after appointment, the appointing entity shall accept the resignation of that representative and appoint another.

Grants shall be awarded by majority vote of the Approval Committee, subject to the Economic Development Director's veto. The EDD shall be responsible for preparing the Approval Committee's grant awards, drafting individual grant contracts, and disbursing grant funds upon execution of the grant contracts by the Grantee and the Chair of the County Commission.

VIII. Grant Match Requirement

Grantees are required to match their grant awards at a rate of 10%. Matches can be made up of the following sources:

- Dedicated labor in support of flood damage recovery efforts (valued at hourly wage of associated worker)
- Materials and supplies purchased in direct response to flood damage and/or recovery efforts
- Services procured in direct response to flood damage and/or recovery efforts
- Volunteers hours or donated labor¹

Receipts, invoices, volunteer hours logs, and/or other relevant documents are required to prove that the applicant's required match has been met.

IX. Grant Disbursement

Grantees who receive funding through this grant program will be required to sign a grant contract. Grantees will have 3 months to spend their initial award and submit the required final grant report. Grant funds may also be used to reimburse flood impact costs that were expended prior to this program's creation and align with the "Applicable Uses" listed in the Overview section. Grantees must provide documentation to prove that these expenditures align with the stated "Applicable Uses."

Grants will be disbursed on a 50/50 basis: upon grant contract approval, Grantees will initially receive 50% of their total award. To access the remaining 50%, Grantees must provide proof they

¹ The value of one volunteer hour in the state of Utah in 2020 was \$27.82, up 6.2% from 2019. The EDD intends to value volunteer hours based on the 2020 value. See: Independent Sector. "The Value of Volunteer Time / State and Historical Data." April 19, 2021. https://independentsector.org/resource/vovt_state_2021/.

Grand County Economic Development Department

Proposal: Flood Relief Emergency Grant Program

Submission date: August 29, 2022

have spent their initial disbursement on the stated flood damage recovery efforts as well as a completed final grant report.

The EDD intends to disburse funds as soon as possible. This is contingent upon the swift and judicious review of applications by the Approval Committee.