

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 3.50
(ID # 25230)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, June 04, 2024

FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Approve funding to establish a regional convening center in Palm Desert, District 4. [\$500,000 Total Cost – 100% Palm Desert RDA CIP Funds] (4/5 Vote Required)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the use of Palm Desert RDA Capital Improvement funding in the amount of \$500,000 for Lift to Rise to establish a regional convening center in Palm Desert; and
2. Approve and direct the Auditor Controller to make the budget adjustment as shown on Schedule A;

ACTION: Policy



Jeff Van Wageningen, County Executive Officer 5/30/2024

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Spiegel and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: June 4, 2024
xc: E.O.

Kimberly A. Rector
Clerk of the Board

By: 
Deputy

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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 500,000	\$ 0	\$ 500,000	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% - Palm Desert RDA CIP Fund 31543			Budget Adjustment:	Yes
			For Fiscal Year:	23/24

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

Lift to Rise, in partnership with the Board of Supervisors and Housing & Workforce Solutions, has a demonstrated track record of leveraging and multiplying local investment to deliver impactful wins for our community.

One example is our proactive partnership during the pandemic. Lift to Rise funded the initial cost to design the United Lift rental assistance program including the website, application portal, case management system, outreach apparatus and communications position and campaign which then leveraged the significant investment and partnership of Riverside County. Our work, together with the United Way, became a recognized “best practices” model across the country and helped keep more than 125,000 residents housed county wide.

Another example is our work together to collaborate in the Housing Collaborative Action Network (CAN) situated in the Coachella Valley. The Housing CAN is a grouping of 70 or more cross sector partners organized around the shared goal to produce 10,000 affordable housing units over 10 years. The County of Riverside has served as the lead institution in this multi-pronged pipeline, policy, and investment initiative. The County has seen the number of affordable housing units grow from less than 40 units under construction to more than 1,500 a year.

To spur the development of affordable housing, the County allocated \$2 million in ARPA funds to help establish the We Lift Catalyst Fund and this assisted in securing an additional \$20 million in state and other public funding. These funds are all matched at least dollar for dollar by Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) and Rural Communities Assistance Corporation (RCAC). To date the We Lift Catalyst Fund has committed \$26 million in loans to 11 projects producing 891 units of affordable housing throughout the Coachella Valley.

The Housing CAN and its 70 plus partners meet monthly, and the current meeting space is no longer sufficient. Lift to Rise is now developing a much-needed regional convening center for Coachella Valley community residents, public agencies, non-profit organizations, and community groups from every city, unincorporated community, and corner of the Coachella Valley to collaborate on solving our region's most pressing issues. The convening center represents an exceptional opportunity to create an anchor community asset centrally located for residents across the region. The site will also be able to serve as a cooling and/or heating

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center in the event of an emergency.

While operating as the headquarters for Lift to Rise, the facility will consist of two distinct and multi-functional indoor professional convening spaces totaling more than 7,500 square feet, several thousand square feet of multi-purpose outdoor convening space and approximately 4,000 square feet of multi-purpose office and workspace. This more than 12,000 square foot facility will serve as the largest non-profit held convening space in the Coachella Valley.

This facility will allow hundreds to gather at a time. Whereas currently, community groups and organizations are limited to a patchwork of hotel ballrooms, recreation centers, and office conference rooms which are not sufficient in size, and are sprinkled across the region, which often are either cost-prohibitive to access or not specifically designed to accommodate the region's multifaceted and unique needs.

This project in Palm Desert will offer a centrally located, welcoming space available for both professional and informal convenings at low or no cost to local mission-driven stakeholders including residents, organizational leaders, public officials, and private-sector partners. The space will feature customizable room setup options to accommodate a range of meeting sizes, both indoor and outdoor programming space, state-of-the-art videoconferencing, and audio/visual technology to enable high quality remote meetings, and food preparation space for catering services. Space uses include public meetings for the County, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, roundtables or meet-and-greets with visiting state and federal public officials, issue-specific symposiums bringing together academic and community partners, resident meetings with community organizers, educational workshops and clinics with community members, strategic planning retreats for non-profit organizations, and more.

The total cost of the project is approximately \$5 million. Lift to Rise has secured a \$2 million mortgage, and has \$1.5 million in active federal, state and philanthropic commitments to cover structural, technological and accessibility improvements. The County would be contributing \$500,000, approximately 10% of the total project cost. The source of funds would be excess proceeds from RDA CIP Fund 31543.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The convening center and adjacent office space will bring together public, private, non-profit and community-based organizations with the shared mission of improving the quality of life for the residents of Riverside County.

ATTACHMENT:

SCHEDULE A.

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BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FY 23/24

Increase Appropriations:

31543-111080000-536200	Contributions to Non-County Agency	\$500,000
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Anticipated Use of Restricted Fund Balance

31543-111080000-321158	Restricted for RDA Capital Improvements	\$500,000
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Evangelina Gregorio 5/30/2024

Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak



Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject to
Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: BRAD ANDERSON

Address: _____
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: Powder Millage **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____

Date: 6/4/24 **Agenda #** 3.50

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ **Support** **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed
for "Appeal", please state separately your position on
the appeal below:

_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____