

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



ITEM: 3.4
(ID # 25511)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, July 09, 2024

FROM : BOS DISTRICT 3

SUBJECT: BOS DISTRICT 3: Approval of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the California State University San Marcos Temecula Valley Campus Advancing Higher Education in Southwest Riverside County Programs [\$5,586,515 Total Cost - 100% American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)] (4/5th Vote Required)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize \$5,586,515 from District 3 ARPA Allocation, to be obligated for the California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) Temecula Valley Campus Advancing Higher Education in Southwest Riverside County Programs as listed within the background; and
2. Direct the Executive Office to Initiate Work on the ARPA Agreements with CSUSM Corporation.

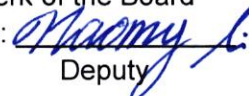
ACTION:Policy


Supervisor Chuck Washington, Vice-Chair 7/3/2024

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Washington 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: July 9, 2024
xc: BOS-Dist. 3, 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	\$ 5,586,515	\$ 0	\$ 5,586,515	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% ARPA Fund 21735			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	24/25 – 26/27

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (H.R. 1319) in to law. The \$1.9 trillion package is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts. On April 27, 2021, the Executive Office presented the Board of Supervisors with a preliminary ARPA funding allocation, then on October 19, 2021, presented a revised funding allocation after the U.S. Treasury released the ARPA interim funding guidelines.

As part of the \$362 billion in federal fiscal recovery aid for state and local governments, \$65.1 billion is provided in direct aid to counties. Riverside County's share of the ARPA funding is \$479 million, of which the first installment of \$239.9 million was received on May 10, 2021, and the second installment in the same amount was received on June 6, 2022. The Board approved the allocation of ARPA funding from both installments for eligible projects in the categories of infrastructure, housing and homelessness, workforce development, neighborhood revitalization, business revitalization, childcare facilities, and non-profits. On October 4, 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved the ARPA 2nd installment funding allocation which allocated \$33 million per district. The funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

The following project is being recommended for ARPA using a combination of Third District ARPA funding and contingency allocations and were determined to follow ARPA funding objectives and US Treasury eligibility criteria by the Executive Office.

CSUSM Temecula Valley Campus - Advancing Higher Education in Southwest Riverside County - \$5,586,515

In a response to the long-lasting impact of the pandemic, CSUSM is creating higher education programs to aid in restoring professions with current shortages such as nursing & healthcare, early childhood teacher education, software engineering, and business & hospitality management. The Third District is supporting this effort to help reinvigorate the workforce in the Southwest Riverside region.

Nursing & Healthcare

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A long-lasting impact of the pandemic is the critical nursing shortage, as many nurses quit their profession for various reasons, leaving California with a deficit of more than 60,000 nurses. This is problematic as the state population ages and the need for reliable healthcare grows. Graduating the highest number of nurses in the CSU system, the nursing programs offered by CSUSM help to solve this shortage by preparing nurses to enter the profession in just five semesters using an accelerated format. These funds will assist the university to upgrade and modernize the equipment and technology used to train this new generation of nurses, who will remain locally and serve the population within the Inland Empire.

Early Childhood Teacher Education

The Southwest Riverside County region has many young families, especially in fast-growing communities like Menifee and Hemet that require the quality childcare services and early childhood education to allow parents the ability to work and provide their families with a high quality of life. The pandemic exacerbated a serious workforce shortage in childcare services and early childhood education, forcing many providers to permanently shutter operations. Meanwhile, the state has made it a priority for young Californians to start their academic journey as early as four years of age, recognizing that 90 percent of brain development occurs by age five. With transitional kindergarten as a critical component of the plan for childhood development, it is necessary to develop a local workforce with the appropriate training to work with this young population. The Early Childhood Teacher Education program will address this shortage by developing a skilled workforce, partnering with Mt. San Jacinto College (MSJC) to build on its associate degree program in Early Childhood education. These resources will help CSUSM develop the requisite classroom with the equipment needed for a learning laboratory.

Software Engineering

The pandemic expedited the digital transformation of the workforce. In California, there is a 4:1 ratio of software engineering job postings for every graduate. Science, engineering, and technology jobs provide some of the best opportunities for high quality and high paying employment, and the Southwest Riverside region must be ready to adapt by creating an environment where these industries can thrive. Because higher education programs like these currently do not exist in the region, students who are interested in these fields must leave the area to find the needed course of study for entry level positions. CSUSM is solving this education gap by delivering a bachelor's degree in software engineering in partnership with MSJC and local high schools. This program innovates further by creating an opportunity for students to accelerate the time to degree so that the degree can be completed within three years of finishing high school, saving time and money, but also allowing earlier entry into the workforce. This program will be a first of its kind in the region and will result in a significant change in the workforce over time, with the potential to lead to economic transformation by building a high-tech workforce away from the coast, which has primarily led the way in high tech innovation. The requested funds will provide the resources to facilitate the program's initial launch by providing information and technology support, and classroom equipment to have the appropriate instructional setting for students to succeed.

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Business Management & Hospitality Management

The Southwest Riverside region boasts vibrant industries such as travel, hospitality and tourism, healthcare, and manufacturing. The region is ranked number two among the best wine regions in the nation in the USA Today 10 Best Readers' Choice travel award contest. The hospitality and tourism industry suffered inordinate impacts from the pandemic, but in recovery, it is critical for these industries to have a high quality, reliable workforce to build resilience for the future. Underpinning these industries is a strong workforce in business management, human resources management, accounting and logistics, and supply chain management. These funds will assist the university to expand the business administration program and to create a hospitality management program that supports the vibrant hospitality and tourism sector of the region, provide the non-clinical workforce necessary to sustain the healthcare sector, and contribute to the economic recovery and development of other industries.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The proposed funding responds to the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic on nursing and healthcare, early childhood education, software engineering, and the hospitality and tourism industries. It provides for workforce development programs and improved public health and community services benefits to the community in these critical areas.

Additional Fiscal Information

The proposed services will be funded entirely by ARPA funding from United States Department of Treasury funds and will not impact the County's General Fund. Project expenses will occur in FY 24/25 through FY 26/27.