1. **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the process for evaluating and awarding grant applications for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“SLFRF”) in accordance with the Final Rule adopted by the Department of Treasury, 31 C.F.R. Part 35 (“Final Rule”).

The Final rule encourages awarding entities to consider input from the community in determining which projects to invest SLFRF funds into. Weber County has elected to receive community input in the form of applications to receive funding for eligible projects.

1. **Minimum Eligibility Requirements:**

An applicant must meet the following requirements to be eligible for SLFRF funds:

* 1. Initial applications for SLFRF funds were due December 31, 2021. Additional applications will be accepted as funding becomes available.
	2. The project must:
		1. be physically located within Weber County; or primarily serve Weber County residents; and
		2. meet the minimum eligibility requirements set forth in the Final Rule.
1. **Project Evaluation Process**

The Weber County Commission (“Commission”) will evaluate applications with the assistance of Weber County staff. Applications will be evaluated as follows:

* 1. Weber County staff will initially review each application to determine whether the project is eligible for SLFRF funds under the Final Rule. Projects that are not likely to be eligible under the Final Rule will not be considered further.
	2. The Weber County Commission will select three County employees to serve collectively as an evaluation committee. The evaluation committee will review each eligible application and classify them as low, medium, or high priority based on the factors and point valuations established under Appendix A of this policy.
	3. After reviewing and classifying each eligible application based on the above-described factors, the evaluation committee will submit its findings and classifications to the Commission for consideration.
	4. The Commission has the sole authority to determine which projects will be awarded SLFRF funding, taking into consideration the evaluation committee’s findings and classifications, as well as what the Commission identifies as the County’s vision and greatest needs.
	5. The evaluation committee does not have the authority to bind the Commission, nor the County, to any award of SLFRF funds. The evaluation committee may make recommendations based on their review and classifications of the applications, but the Commission is not bound to act upon such recommendations.
1. **Agreement with grant recipients**
	1. The County will enter into a written agreement with each external entity that receives County SLFRF funding. The agreements will specify:
		1. the amount of County funding available;
		2. required matching funds, if applicable;
		3. reporting requirements;
		4. audit provisions; and
		5. other necessary provisions.
2. **County Managed Projects**
	1. For County managed projects, no application is needed, but the evaluation committee will evaluate each internal project for:
		1. eligibility per final rule; and
		2. other relevant factors, including but not limited to items such as:
			1. the comparative need for this project in relation to the need for other projects throughout the County;
			2. alternative solutions that will provide the same minimum level of service for less money; and
			3. the effectiveness of the project in meeting the projected demand for services.
	2. The evaluation committee will submit its findings and classifications to the Commission for consideration. As described in section III.D and III.E above, the Commission has sole discretion in determining which eligible projects meet the County’s vision and the greatest need.

DATED this day of , 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WEBER COUNTY:

 Scott K. Jenkins, Chair

ATTEST:

Ricky Hatch, CPA

Weber County Clerk/Auditor

Approved as to form and legality:

Christopher K. Crockett

Deputy County Attorney

**Appendix A**

Evaluation Committee Factors for Review

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| **General** | **Points Available** |
| The project is an infrastructure or other brick and mortar project (15 points for water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure, 7 for other brick and mortar projects) | 15 |
| No other existing funding sources exist that are available for this project within the next 5 to 10 years | 15 |
| The project leverages other funding sources (Match of 1%-15% = 2.5 pts; 15%-25% = 5 pts; 25% - 50% = 10 pts; 50%+ = 15 pts) | 15 |
| The project does not create a funding dependency | 10 |
| The project has a sound plan and budget (e.g. based on reasonable estimates and timeline) | 15 |
| The project has clear long-term benefits that are defined and measurable and benefits multiple entities (e.g. regional plan) | 5 |
| The project piggy backs on another project | 5 |

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| **Project-Specific Category: Housing** | **Points Available** |
| The project, if located within an MPO boundary area, is in proximity to transit corridors. | 10 |
| The project serves individuals and families whose income is 50% or below Area Median Income (AMI) | 10 |
| The project has a gross rent no greater than 30% of household income | 7.5 |
| The project has a deed restriction to maintain affordability | 7.5 |
| The project does not provide support for existing services or other ongoing programs  | 5 |

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| **Project-Specific Category: Water & Sewer** | **Points Available** |
| The project mitigates a public health challenge | 5 |
| The project supports community resilience related to water, drought, or climate change | 5 |
| The project provides a substantive water quality benefit | 5 |
| The project benefits a vulnerable community | 2.5 |
| The project conserves or expands current water storage capacity | 2.5 |
| The project integrates land use and water use planning | 2.5 |
| The project addresses an existing or impending water supply need | 2.5 |
| Cost per resident serviced (give guidance for score) | 10 |
| The project is in an area with significant growth expected in the next 5 to 10 years | 7.5 |

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| **Project-Specific Category: Broadband** | **Points Available** |
| The project targets unserved or underserved areas with appropriate technology | 10 |
| The project is located in an economically distressed area of the state (QCT) | 2.5 |
| The project targets last-mile gaps in network connection | 5 |
| The project is unlikely to be funded by the private sector | 5 |
| The project addresses digital equity (accessibility) | 2.5 |
| Cost per resident serviced (give guidance for score) | 7.5 |
| The project is in an area with significant growth expected in the next 5 to 10 years | 7.5 |

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| **Project-Specific Category: Public Health Impact** | **Points Available** |
| The project benefits vulnerable populations that have been affected adversely by the COVID-19 pandemic | 10 |
| The project mitigates COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, or deaths, or increases vaccination rates | 7.5 |
| The project addresses (a) physical or behavioral issue(s) exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic | 7.5 |
| The project addresses a need related to the COVID-19 pandemic not funded elsewhere | 5 |
| The project targets (a) population group(s) at higher risk of being impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic | 5 |
| The project does not provide support for existing services or other ongoing programs  | 5 |

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| **Project-Specific Category: Economic Opportunities and Recovery** | **Points Available** |
| The project has a firm timeline to reach full impact | 5 |
| The project demonstrates capacity for impact with longevity | 5 |
| The project increases economic stabilization | 10 |
| The project targets areas of lowest recovery and highest geographical impact | 10 |
| The project increases capacity to recruit or retain employees | 5 |
| The project aligns with existing projects and programs | 5 |

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| **Priority Points** | **Points Available** |
| The County’s stated intention is to spend its first tranche of ARPA funds on infrastructure and other brick and mortar projects that would not otherwise receive funding through existing sources. It is not intended to provide support for existing services or other ongoing programs. The project in in line with the County’s vision and will have a positive impact on our next generation of citizens. | 30 |