



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

City Council Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: June 21, 2021

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Agenda Item: Consent Agenda – GPEDC Funding

Explanation: Chris Setti from the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council presented a summary at Monday's Committee of the Whole meeting to provide updates on initiatives being undertaken by the GPEDC and the regional economy. The GPEDC has played a vital role in the current response to COVID-19 and has been an important ally for the businesses in Washington and in the five-county region that it serves. Last year, it provided the portal for businesses to submit initial application data to as part of the Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program grants and did a significant amount of work coordinating the effort between the various municipalities, counties, Chambers, and businesses. GPEDC staff have been providing updates on a variety of federal and state legislative programs, including most recently with the American Rescue Plan Act.

The GPEDC is the first line of communication on non-retail site selector projects and provides assistance on grant applications that can help fund infrastructure or workforce enhancements. It is also a strong advocate for legislative initiatives that can positively impact economic growth in the region.

Fiscal Impact: The FY 21-22 budget has \$10,000 included in Account #100-05-560-1000 for the City's annual financial contribution to the GPEDC.

Recommendation/

Committee Discussion Summary: Staff recommends approval of the funding request.

Action Requested: Authorization to make the annual \$10,000 contribution to the GPEDC as a consent agenda item.