

DODGE COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 654
Highway 33 E
Beaver Dam, WI 53916
920-885-3586

We ask you to accept this formal request from the Dodge County Fair Association to receive funding from the Dodge County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Allocation. Following is an itemized list of requested construction items that would not only benefit Dodge County but also the citizens who live and visit our County:

- 1 Commercial Building:
 - 60' x 124'
 - Estimated cost of \$490,000.00
 - Included in building: restroom facilities; kitchenette and ventilation; new well and holding tank
 - Tables, chairs, and commercial refrigeration would be an additional \$20,000
 - Utilization of building:
 - Shelter in event of disaster
 - Potential back-up EOC for County
 - Secure space during annual County Fair
 - Additional space for businesses/vendors
 - Additional restrooms for events
- 2 Pavilions & Picnic Shelters (Two)
 - 20' x 40'
 - \$29,969 ea. – Total: \$59,938
 - Timber – not constructed
 - Utilization of shelters:
 - Provide shelter from inclement weather
- 3 Shelter
 - 30' x 70'
 - \$81,700
 - Timber – not constructed
 - Utilization of shelter:
 - Events
 - Provide shelter from inclement weather
 - Gather place for families while participating in youth programs at the County Fair

Projected timeline for construction of the Commercial Building would be 2022 with the other projects being completed as funding is made available.

The Dodge County Fair is a longtime tradition of the County and surrounding communities and is managed by the Dodge County Fair Association is a non-profit organization operated by an independent corporation with 9 directors. The above listed projects would not be feasible without the funding from ARPA.

The Dodge County Fair hosts the largest 5-day event within Dodge County with 55-60,000 citizens and visitors participating. The fairgrounds are also host to many other events which include, but are not limited to: State Dog Show, State Shorthorn Beef Show, District and State Dairy Cattle Shows, Stock Car and Motorcycle Races, Swap Meet / Car Show, Fair Food Festival and Flea Market. These events draw people from throughout the state and neighboring states. Each of these events assist with the tourism in neighboring communities and businesses, which brings in additional state/county sales tax revenue. The Dodge County Fair Association is also a job creator and auxiliary outlet for independent businesses/organizations to grow/maintain their businesses.

The Dodge County Fairgrounds are centrally located with easy access from major highways and are large enough to host multiple events with ample parking. The addition of the proposed buildings would allow for additional events as well as a potential back-up EOC site. All upkeep of current and future buildings is the responsibility of the Dodge County Fair Association and would not fall to the taxpayers.

In review, with your approval of the requested funds, it would provide for additional shelter during inclement weather, which is a big deterrent of ability for fairgrounds to host at capacity and for guests enjoyment. Ability to allow more members of the community to showcase their businesses and trades, as well as a place for outside-county citizens to engage in commerce within Dodge County. Adds to talent/events that the Fairgrounds will be able to attract.

On a sentimental note, if this aid is received by the fairgrounds, a traditional beacon of the community, the incalculable fabric of the County is strengthened - and given the past couple of years with COVID etc. this is a community pillar in great need of replenishing/strengthening/reinforcement that would set Dodge County apart for years to come and provide unforeseen benefits for the County writ-large.

An investment in the fairgrounds is an investment for all of Dodge County.

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