



City of Winston-Salem City Council
Council Agenda Item Summary

Title	Information Item – Update on Fy 2026-27 Local Community Agencies Funding Process
City Council Committee	Finance Committee
Staff Lead (Presenter)	Scott Tesh, Budget and Performance Management Director
Department Head	Scott Tesh, Budget and Performance Management Director
City Manager/ACM	W. Patrick Pate, City Manager

Agenda Item Summary

Recommended Council Action
 Suggested Motion Options

No Action Needed
 No Action Needed

Strategic Focus Area
 Strategic Plan Objective

Good Government
 GG2: Strengthening the Organization's Financial Practices and Position

Anticipated Fiscal Impact

No Material Fiscal Impact

Summary of Information

Background

This information item is a follow-up from previous discussions this year (see City Council agenda items from 1/15/26 and 2/10/26 for additional background).

As part of the FY 2026-27 budget process, more than \$5.0 million in requests for local community agencies funding (general fund and occupancy tax fund) was requested by local non-profit organizations. Staff compiled the applications and provided that information to the Mayor and City Council for initial review in February. This information item provides a summary of the information staff received from elected official input and serves as a preview of the policy decision(s) that will be discussed in budget workshops (in May 2026) related to community agency funding levels.

Information provided herein is based on comments and submissions received as of 3/30/26. Additional information can be provided during budget workshops.

Summary of Information

General Fund



Vision: To be a premier city in the region providing world-class amenities while retaining a sense of charm and hospitality
Mission: To provide impactful services that enhance the quality of life for current and future generations
Values: Teamwork * Responsibility * Respect * Integrity * Customer Service

The table below provides a summary of the input received for general fund applications. Of the sixty-four eligible agency applications, fifteen (23%) of those received funding input from at least four respondents. The total, averaged funding amount of those funding inputs is \$841,000, which is \$115,550 less than the anticipated amount available for these programs. The average funding level as a percentage of amount requested is 66%, with a range from 35% to 93%.

Forty-nine applications (77%) received funding input from fewer than half of respondents.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Number of Agencies</u>	<u>% of Agencies</u>	<u>Funding Requested</u>	<u>Average Funding Input by Respondents*</u>
Agencies - Funding Input from Four or More Respondents	15	23%	\$1,386,412	\$841,000
Agencies - Funding Input from Less Than Four Respondents	49	77%	\$2,519,572	\$1,303,000

**Average amount recommended by elected officials for those who provided a recommendation*

Occupancy Tax Fund

The table below provides a summary of the input received for occupancy tax fund applications. Of the eight eligible agency applications, five (63%) of those received funding input from at least four respondents. The total, averaged funding amount of those inputs is \$378,000, which is \$47,360 less than the anticipated amount available for these programs. The average funding level as a percentage of amount requested is 80%, with a range from 50% to 102%.

The remaining applicants (3 applicants) received funding input from fewer than half of respondents.

<u>Occupancy Tax Fund</u>	<u>Number of Agencies</u>	<u>% of Agencies</u>	<u>Funding Requested</u>	<u>Average Funding Input by Respondents*</u>
Agencies - Funding Input from Four or More Respondents	5	63%	\$486,540	\$378,000
Agencies - Funding Input from Less Than Four Respondents	3	38%	\$391,500	\$210,000

**Average amount recommended by elected officials for those who provided a recommendation*

The attached exhibits provide the following detail and summary information for general fund and occupancy tax fund requests:



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- Organization Name – Name submitted on application; may contain doing-business-as (dba) name
- Case Name – Created by applicant; modified by staff in some cases to shorten or provide context for operating support
- Requested Funding – Amount requested by applicant
- FY 25-26 Funding – Amount by agency funded in current budget (FY 25-26)
- Rounded Average Funding Input – Rounded (up the nearest thousand) average of the amounts provided by those who recommended a funding level (excludes those who provided no funding input for a particular agency)

Analysis of Fiscal Impact

This item is for information only and includes no policy or funding change recommendations. The FY 2026-27 proposed budget will be made available on May 4, 2026 with proposed aggregate amounts previously shown to City Council. Additional funding for community agencies beyond the amounts in the recommended budget would require additional resources.

Attachments

- Exhibits – General and Occupancy Tax Funding Summaries

Committee Action	
For:	Against:
Remarks:	