



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
Meeting Date	February 10, 2026
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	Information Item
Suggested Action/ Motion Options	No Action Required
Strategic Focus Area	Good Government
Strategic Plan Objective	Not Applicable
Anticipated Fiscal Impact	No Estimate Available

Summary of Information

Background

Each year, the City of Winston-Salem holds an open call for program funding from non-profit organizations (NPOs) for local funding (general fund and occupancy tax funds). The Budget and Performance Management Department currently manages twenty-two annual NPO agreements, totaling more than \$1.3 million in annual funding, with amounts ranging from \$2,500 to over \$200,000 per agency.

The application period for FY 2026-27 funding opened on January 5, 2026, and closed on February 6, 2026. The information provided in this update is only related to NPOs that requested local funding. NPOs requesting federal/state funding through the City’s Neighborhood Services Department will be reviewed and submitted to City Council as part of the Consolidated Housing Plan through the General Government Committee.

Funding Requests Received



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

For FY 2026-27 local NPO funding requests, the following applications and amounts were received as of February 1, 2026:

Organization Type	Number of Applications	Total Funding Requested
Arts	6	\$791,500
Business/Innovation	5	409,500
Human Services/Other	58	3,413,484
Subtotal General Fund	69	\$4,614,484
Occupancy Tax	4	\$435,460
Total Requests	73	\$5,049,944

Timeline and Selection Process

The process for community agency funding selection this year will include staff scoring and City Council input for the City Manager’s Proposed Budget. After the presentation of the Proposed Budget, time will be allotted during budget workshops for additional discussion on community agency funding.

General Timeline

- February 6th – Application period ended
- February – Staff scoring
- March – Council-level input (online method)
- April – Budget construction
- May – Budget proposal and workshops (includes public hearing)
- June – Budget adoption

Future Process Changes/Improvements

Based on feedback from the City Council retreat in January, staff will present information regarding the “umbrella organization funding model” in the spring and summer. If Council elects to institute any changes to the community agency funding model, those changes would be integrated into the FY 2027-28 budget process.

Attachments

- FY 2024-25 Table of Community Agencies Reported Performance

Committee Action	
For:	Against:



Remarks: