

Agenda Item 1.2.1

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BRIEFING PAPER

Topic: County Cultural Council Grant Recommendations for 2025

Presented by Iris Gregg, County Cultural Council

Date: 7/22/2025

☐ For Information

☐ For Discussion/Board Direction

☒ Consent to
Place on Business/
Hearing Agenda

Issue: Grant recommendations for 2025 Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) funding.

Background: The County Cultural Council received 96 eligible grant requests for 2025-2026 programs from arts, cultural and scientific organizations for SCFD funds. The Cultural Council made recommendations for the distribution of the available 2024-2025 grant funds of \$2,131,242.27 to the organizations

Discussion: The total 2025 grant requests were \$4,074,057.30. The total amount of funds available from the 2025 SCFD tax levy for Jefferson County is \$2,131,242.27. Compared to 2024, this represents \$70,000 less in funds available and with 6 additional grant requests, organizations requested almost \$1.5 million more in requests than in 2024.

The Cultural Council reviewed all 96 grant requests, held interviews with the applicants, conducted due diligence by asking program and financial questions about the grant requests and made recommendations for the distribution of the available funds to the organizations.

The County Commissioners review and consider the Cultural Council's recommendations and then the SCFD Board will also be asked to vote on whether to approve the Cultural Council recommendations.

Fiscal Impact: ☐ yes ☒ no

Tax dollars are used to fund these programs generated by the SCFD sales tax of 1 percent approved by the voters.

SPA Review: Support, no concerns, Micah Badana 7/10/25

County Attorney Review: Approved, Carey Markel 7/15/25

Recommendations: That the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approves the Cultural Council grant recommendations at a future Hearing.

Originator: Katie LaLiberte (Records & Licensing Specialist II), Maylee Barraza (Records & Licensing Director)

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