Civic and Community Organizations Grant Program

Presented by Luke Morgan

Program History

- Grant program overhauled in 2019

- Changes were intended to make the funding process more transparent, more accessible, and more equitable

- Standard application and evaluation processes were created

Application and Evaluation Process

- Two application categories:
  - $5,000 and under
  - Above $5,000
- The application asks for summary, agency, and program information.
  - Slight variations between the applications for the two categories
- The evaluation process relies on a standard rubric and an evaluation committee.
- The Evaluation Committee scores applications and develops a funding recommendation for submission to the city manager.

Overview

- Council asked staff to return with recommendations for application funding categories.

- The program currently faces several challenges.

- Staff has recommendations for modifications to the program to ease the existing challenges

- According to City Code, the grant application must close by January 30.

Funding Categories

Recommended Funding Categories

1. **Mental and Physical Health**
2. **Housing and Homelessness**
3. **Inclusive and Welcoming**
4. **Arts and Culture**
5. **Youth Supports**
6. **Other**

- Funding categories would not be considered during the scoring of applications.
- Applicants would self-select their primary service category.
- Council could direct the evaluation committee to greater prioritize some categories for funding, based on alignment with its adopted Vision.
- Categories will enhance reporting on grant impact.

Program Challenges

Challenges

1 Redirection of funding in FY24 and in upcoming fiscal years to support operation of the Homeless Services Center

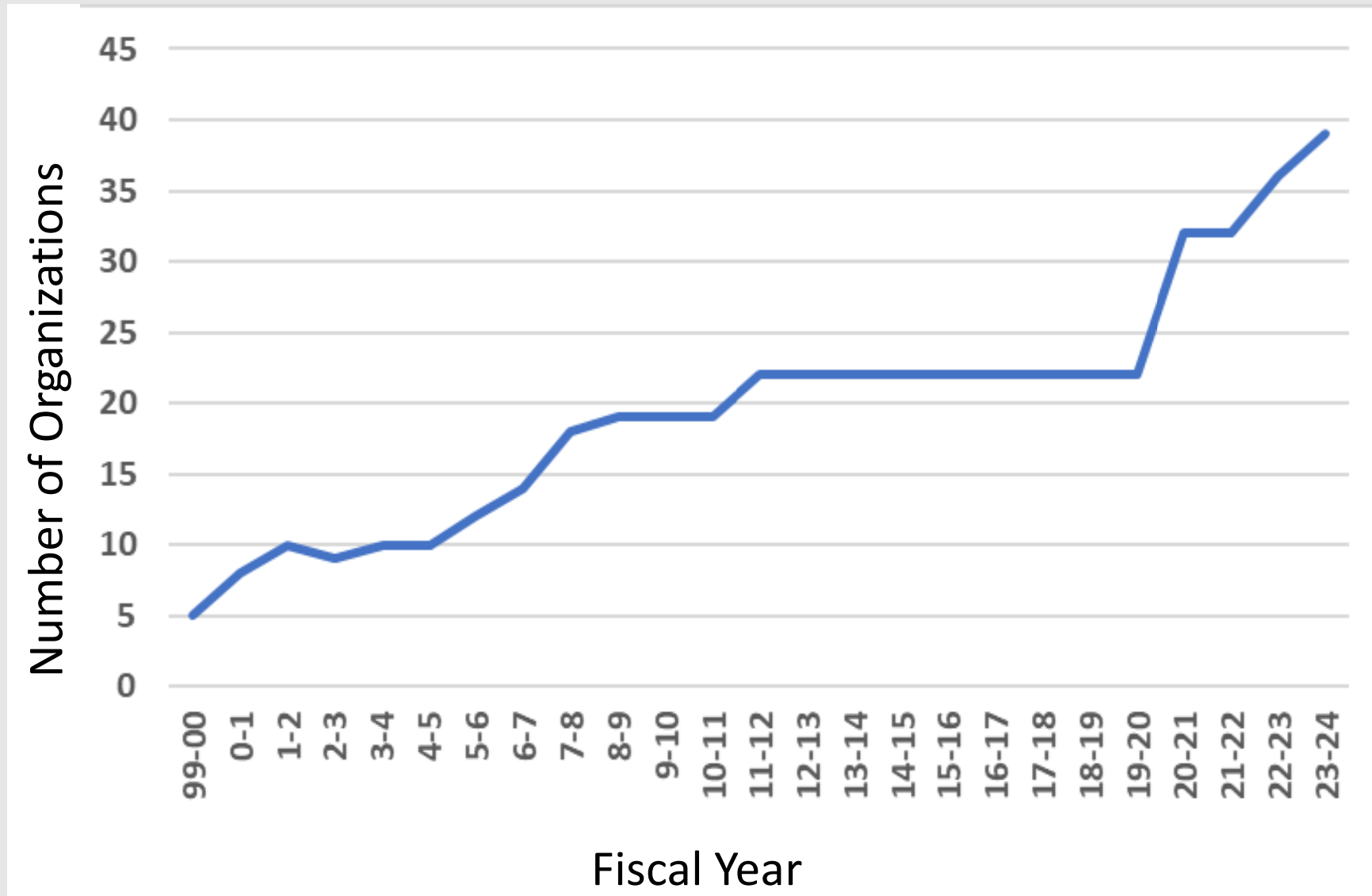**2** Increased number of organizations applying for funding

3 Increasing average funding request

Funding Levels from FY21 – FY24

Year	Funding
FY20-21	$430,000
FY21-22	$508,000
FY22-23	$496,650
FY23-24	$400,000

Increasing Number of Organizations Receiving Funds

Increasing Funding Requests

	Total	Average
FY20-21	$974,270	$26,331
FY21-22	$591,831	$18,495
FY22-23	$726,451	$20,179
FY23-24	$888,559	$22,784

Available Funding vs. Funding Requests
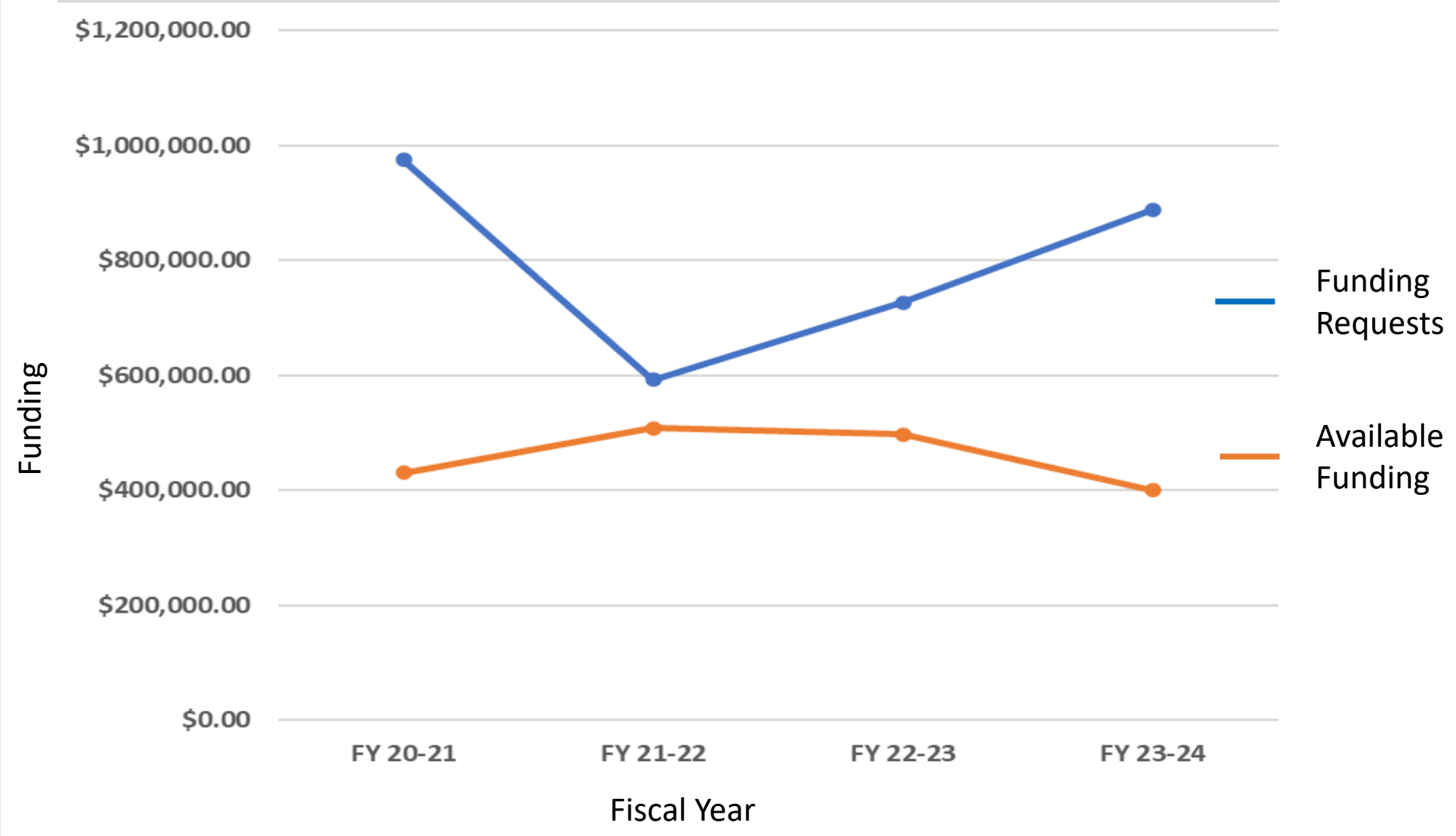
FY24 Funding Cycle – 39 Applications

	Request	Award
Total	$888,599	$400,000
Average	$22,784	$10,256
Maximum Individual	$64,656	$29,000
Max % of Operating Budget	32.5%	12.9%
Average % of Operating Budget	6.5%	2.4%

Funding Request Cap Recommendation

Staff recommends capping requested amounts at **5% of operating budget** or **$30,000**, whichever is lower.

1.5%	1.75%	2%	5%	5% + $30k cap
$391,600	$457,000	$525,800	$1.3 million	$801,000

Based on FY24 applications:

- 20 organizations requested less than the recommended cap
- 18 organizations requested more than the recommended cap
- 1 organization's request equaled the recommended cap

Program Recommendations

Recommendation 1:

Staff recommends creating the following funding categories on the Civic and Community Organization Grant Program application:

1. **Mental and Physical Health**
2. **Housing and Homelessness**
3. **Inclusive and Welcoming**
4. **Arts and Culture**
5. **Youth Supports**
6. **Other**

Recommendation 2:

Staff recommend capping requested amounts at **5% of operating budget** or **$30,000**, whichever is lower.

Questions?