



DATE: March 16, 2026
TO: Council
FROM: City Manager
RE: 5th Cent Funding for Community & Contractual Partners FY 26-27

BACKGROUND

Each year, the City provides funding to local agencies from the General-Purpose Penny Tax (“5th Cent”) in two ways—through the Community Partner Program (CPP) and via fee-for-service contracts. In FY25-26, City Council awarded a total of \$521,272 from the 5th cent sales tax for the two programs, of which \$231,272 (due to rounding) was awarded via the CPP to multiple local agencies and \$290,000 was paid via fee-for-service contracts to the Laramie Regional Airport, Laramie Chamber Business Alliance, the Laramie Main Street Alliance, and Tough Guys/Winter Lights Festival.

- Historically, organizations eligible to request funding through the CPP fall within one of three categories:
- *Civic/Quasi-Governmental Agencies* – like Albany County Public Library
 - *Social Service Agencies* – like Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Downtown Clinic, and Interfaith-Good Samaritan
 - *Recreational, Arts & Cultural Agencies* – like the Laramie Plains Museum, Laramie Historic Railroad Depot, and Relative Theatrics

Thirty-seven agencies applied for CPP funding for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026. Submitted requests total \$441,825.00.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

Given the state of the City’s overall penny tax receipts, I would recommend a zero adjustment to the previous year’s disbursement of \$231,255.00 to CPP agencies.

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAM	
Total Requested Funding for FY26/27 =	\$441,825.00
Recommended Funding – Zero Increase from Prior Year =	\$231,255.00
<i>Reduction Needed to Achieve Recommended Amount =</i>	<i>\$210,570.00</i>

CONTRACTUAL / FEE-FOR-SERVICE PARTNERS

Note: These amounts reflect current biennial contract awards. FY26 actual contract amounts were approved in FY24.

Chamber Business Alliance	\$10,000
Main Street Alliance	\$65,000
Regional Airport	\$205,000
Tough Guys/Winter Lights Festival	\$10,000
Contractual Partners FY26 ACTUAL =	\$290,000

NEXT STEPS

Funding for CPP applicants is determined based on the average recommendation of all Council members as agreed upon by a vote of the governing body.

Worksheets memorializing the individual recommendation of each Council member by agency will be forwarded via email in advance of the March 24th CPP presentations. Worksheets are **due April 12, 2026**, via email, or hand delivery, to:

Nancy Oakland-Potter (noaklandpotter@cityoflaramie.org)

Please also contact Nancy Oakland-Potter if you need assistance in completing your worksheet.

Upon receipt of your individual recommendations, Nancy Oakland-Potter will tally and average the group recommendation for consideration by resolution at the regular meeting on May 6, 2026.