

WHEREAS, the “SMART Analysis of the expenditure of ARPA funds will be critical to the City of Toledo’s future. The SMART Analysis include an evaluation and demonstration of the following:

- Sustainable in that it meets the City’s ability of future generations to meet their needs
- Meets White House/US Treasury requirements
- Accountable so there is justification for the City of Toledo to perform that act and the City will report on the status and outcomes
- Return on Investment so there are no unnecessary expenditure of federal funds that require collaboration to minimize cost and maximize impact
- Transparent in that the who, what, when, where, and how

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**SMART Analysis**

Proposed ARPA Program or Project:	Food Systems Incubation & Innovation Hub
Program or Project Description:	<p>The Food Systems, Education and Incubation Hub will address multiple needs in our community. Food entrepreneurship increased exponentially during the Covid pandemic, and there is a significant need for technical training, business counseling, and access to licensed commercial kitchen space. The hub will provide entrepreneurs access to both the planned CIFT Smart Kitchen, (to be equipped through receipt of a \$1.1 million federal earmark) as well as opportunities to operate in incubator restaurants in the food hall.</p> <p>The hub will advance workforce development by increasing Opportunity Kitchen’s training capacity for returning citizens and others with barriers prepare for employment in the culinary industry.</p> <p>A retail market commissary will provide underserved communities in the area access to healthy food through a unique partnership with neighborhood convenience stores. These stores have limited capacity to purchase fresh products wholesale due to a number of reasons, including supply chain order minimums and inability to incur inventory loss. The hub will offer a wholesaling program to supply these stores with fresh, healthy foods for their immediate community. Infrastructure is planned for aggregation, storage, and allocation of fresh produce and other grocery items for these neighborhood stores.</p>
Proposed Amount:	\$ 500,000

SMART Analysis Element	
Sustainable	ECDI, CIFT, and Opportunity Kitchen are experienced organizations in our community. The project will create a space and programming that can serve for many years. By placing the hub in a building in a high traffic area, we will provide revenue for the businesses participating in the incubator.
Meets Guidelines	<p><b>Sub Category:</b> Disproportionately Impacted Households and Communities <b>Eligible Use:</b> Investments in neighborhoods to promote improved health outcomes (e.g., parks, recreation facilities, programs that increase access to healthy food.</p> <p><b>Sub Category:</b> Disproportionately Impacted Small Businesses <b>Eligible Use:</b> Technical assistance, business incubators, and grants for start-up or expansion costs.</p>
Accountable	City of Toledo, Department of Economic Development will monitor the project outcomes.
Return on Investment	Our \$500,000 expenditure and the \$1.1 million earmark awarded to CIFT is expected to leverage an estimated additional six to eight million dollars in funding. Potential sources include Historic Tax credits and New Market Tax Credits.
Transparent	ECDI, CIFT, and Opportunity Kitchen are all non-profit organizations subject to rigorous reporting requirements. CIFT has been awarded a \$1.1 million Federal earmark and will be subject to federal reporting requirements as well.