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Brian Peddle, General
Douglas Riley, Territorial Commander
Mike Dickinson, Divisional Commander
Danielle & Jacob Bratton, Corps Officers Ogden

October 20, 2021

Utah Commission on Housing Affordability C/O State of Utah, Department of Workforce Services

## To The Commission:

I write regarding the statewide pool of federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds that will soon be distributed for various projects across Utah. Development of affordable housing is an eligible activity under the ARPA legislation, and The Salvation Army respectfully requests that Utah devote significant ARPA funds to affordable housing projects.

The Salvation Army is currently in pre-development of an affordable housing project in Ogden to be known as The Salvation Army Ogden Silvercrest Residence. The Ogden Silvercrest Residence will create about 50 new one bedroom apartments for very low income (at or below 50% of area median income) elderly men, women, and couples, with an overlay of case managed supportive services. Residents will pay only 30% of their adjusted gross monthly income as rent. The project is currently undergoing conceptual design and will seek public and tax credit financing within the next year and start construction in early 2023.

The Ogden Silvercrest is ideally suited for State distributed ARPA funds because:

- As allowed under ARPA, the project can make rapid use of funds for "development" of "new construction" "affordable housing" as stated in §3205 (a)(2) of ARPA.
- The project can and will prioritize elderly people affected or at risk of Covid-19.
- The project can and will house elderly people at risk of homelessness, or who are homeless when admitted.
- The project can and will use awarded ARPA funds prior to the federal expenditure deadline of September 30, 2025.

The Salvation Army will bring millions of dollars in federal non-entitlement funds into Utah for the development of the Ogden Silvercrest. These funds will include an initial federal development funding award of more than a million dollars and a 40 year commitment of rent subsidy / project operating funds with a likely annual value of several hundred thousand dollars in the early years of project operation. The Salvation Army will be seeking both the development funds and the rent subsidy / project operating funds under the competitive HUD Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program.

ARPA and other State controlled funds are essential to bringing these non-entitlement funds to Utah. The HUD scoring under their NOFA process heavily favors projects with resources already committed at the time of application. With applications likely due at HUD in about May of 2022, commitments of Statewide ARPA funds and/or Olene Walker Housing Loan funds are essential to making the application competitive to bring the federal funds to Utah and to proceed with development of The Salvation Army Ogden Silvercrest Residence.



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If we can provide any additional information, please contact me or Hill, Devine & Gong, our consultants for development of Ogden Silvercrest (JerryAHill@aol.com; CandyR@devinegong.com; StaceyLEstes@aol.com).

With very best wishes,

Lt. Jacob Bratton Commanding Officer

The Salvation Army, Ogden