**Huerfano County Projects Summary**

**Access to Capital**

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

**SCEDD Regional Programs**

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund.** Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment, or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--$500k; Sidecar fund $500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

**Broadband/Communications**

**SCEDD Regional Programs**

Program—**Broadband Support Office**. SCEDD will create a two-to-three-person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--$250k per annum in operational support; $1M per annum in grant match gap fund. Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants.

Project – **Create a Broadband Loop from Canon City through Westcliffe/Silver Cliff to Walsenburg.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano, Custer, and Fremont Counties/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, EDA

Project – **Identify Potential Sites for Additional Towers.** (To improve Broadband and Radio Service Throughout the County.)

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, EDA

Project – **La Veta Regional Library District, Broadband as a Local Utility.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – LVRLD

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – User Fees, ARPA

Project- **Broadband Development - Place Towers, Build Middle Mile Link Between Walsenburg, Cuchara, and Sheep Mountain.**

Status of Project – Preconstruction/Engineering

Lead - Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – $100,000

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, EDA

**Agriculture**

Project – **Biochar plant and Yucca Extraction Production.**

Status of Project – Funding, preconstruction

Lead – Spanish Peaks Enterprises, LLC

Project Cost Estimate – $1.6 million

Funding Options – EDA, OEDIT, DOLA, USDA

Project – **Expand Access to Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.** (By strengthening and promoting local farmers markets as well as promoting healthy eating.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Project – **Examine the Effect of Invasive Species/Plant Life on Water Levels. Access Management Measures.**

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Project – **Huerfano County Mixed-use Development in the unincorporated community of Gardner.** (This development would center around the establishment of a gas station, likely in the form of a cooperative, as well as workforce housing, commercial space, and greenhouses for use by the Gardner Valley School and the community.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, USDA, HUD, DOLA Housing, CHFA

**Business Development**

Project – **Railway Spurs/Sidings Development.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOT, EDA, DOLA

Project – **Development of Innovation Spaces, e.g., Business Incubator or a Makerspace. (**The study is being conducted as part of a Retail and Entrepreneurship Action Plan that will help guide economic development activity.)

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/Huerfano County Economic Development Inc. POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, EDA, DOLA, Huerfano County, Private Funding

Status of Project – **Develop Industrial Park.** (Within or near to Walsenburg.)

Lead – Huerfano County/ Huerfano County Economic Development Inc. POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, DOLA, Huerfano County, USDA

Project – **Replace Trees and Sidewalks Downtown.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, URA, DNR, HCPRD

**Critical Infrastructure**

Project- **Resurfacing of CDOT Streets through Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, DOLA

Project- **Replace Aging Water and Sewer Lines Prior to Resurfacing of CDOT Streets Through Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, CDOT

Project – **Move Walsenburg Road and Bridge Shop Out of Flood Plain.**

Status of Project - Concept

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, Huerfano County

Project- **Replace the Natural Gas Transmission Line from Trinidad to Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project- **Assess Cost/Placement of New Water Line to Serve Northlands Area.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Matching Funds: Per the annexation agreement this must be funded using GID revenues and not City Water Enterprise revenues

Project – **Replace Two Aging Raw Water Lines from La Veta to City Lake**.

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Matching Funds: DOLA, CDPHE

Project – **Widen Hwy 85/87 from Hwy 160(?) to the hogback to Safely Accommodate Ped/Bike Traffic.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, RPP

Project – **Upgrade/Repair Gardner Water and Wastewater Systems.**

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority, CDPHE, DOLA, Huerfano County

**Housing**

Project – **Huerfano County will seek to encourage and participate in Affordable and Accessible Housing Development across the County. (**Housing development will include options for Veterans, Seniors, ADA Accessibility, and an Assisted Living Facility.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/ POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, HUD, CHFA, USDA, DOLA Housing

**Education/Work Force Development**

Project – **Greenhouse/Gardening Project** (**for Workforce Development) via Career Technical Education (CTE).**

Status – Planning

Lead – La Veta Schools RE-2

Project Cost Estimate – $50,000.00

Funding Options – Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act ESSRA 2.

Project – **Develop youth Apprenticeship, Internship, and Mentoring Programs.**

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Foundations, CWDC, CDOL, USDOL, EDA, USDA

Project – **Become an ACT Work-Ready Community.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Foundations, CWDC, CDOL, USDOL, EDA, USDA

Project- **Early Childhood Development/Childcare Facility in Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – RE1

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options -

Project- **Area/Regional** **Trade School (Career and Technology Education).**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – RE-1, RE-2, TSJC?

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options -

**Renewable Energy**

Project – **Complete an Energy Performance Contracting Program for County Facilities. (Including a Possible Community Solar Garden.)**

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Colorado Energy Office, DOLA, Huerfano County

**Recreation and Tourism**

Project – **Pedestrian** **Bike Lanes on Scenic Highway of Legends.**

Status of Project – Planned (see PEL study)

Lead – SCCOG, with LAC and Huerfano BOCCs

Project Cost Estimate – $110 million

Funding Options – CDOT, EDA, GOCO, DOLA

Project – **Repair/Upgrade Huerfano County Community Center; Expand offerings at the facility; Upgrade/Improve facilities in/around Fiesta Park.** (If the Walsenburg Road and Bridge Shop moves, repurpose those facilities into additional recreation space)

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, DOLA, Huerfano County, Private Foundations

Project – **Expand Conservation of Land as Open Space or for Public Use.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Huerfano County, Private Foundations

Project – **Increase the Quality and Quantity of Festivals and Community Events.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, Private Foundations

Project – **Train Depot Upgrade for Use as a Visitors Center.**

Status of Project – Pre-construction/engineering

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CTO, OEDIT

Project – **Purchase of San Luis/Rio Grande Railroad.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Five County Coalition (Huerfano, Costilla, Alamosa, Rio Grande, Conejos)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project - **Walsenburg Wild Waters Aquatic Park Assessment followed by Refurbishing or Repurposing.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – $250,000.00

Funding Options – DOLA, GOCO, HCPRD

Project – **Develop an Integrated System of Parks, Trails, and Open Space.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, DNR, HCPRD

Project – **Riverwalk Along the Cuchara River from Fiesta Park to Bear Creek Road.** (With a Phase 2 from Bear Creek to Lathrop Youth Camp.)

Status of Project – Conceptual/planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, GOCO, DNR

Project - **Redevelop Cuchara Mountain Park into a County Park.** (With year-round activities.)

Status of Project – Rehab

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, GOCO, USDA, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, DOLA

Project – **Expand the Gardner Community Center.** (To better serve the community and provide additional recreational opportunities.)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - GOCO, DOLA, Huerfano County, Private Foundations, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Project **– Expand Day Care, Afterschool Activities, Early Childhood Support, and Other Youth Activities.** (Working with non-profit partners.)

Status of Project - Concept

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, Private Foundations, Colorado Department of Education

Project – **Develop a Destination Shooting Range, as part of a County-owned Park.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - GOCO, NRA, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, USDA, DOLA

**Project – Implementation of the Southern Mountain Loop Trail System.** (Building on the PEL Study.)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDOT, CDOT, Huerfano County, Las Animas County

**Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health**

Project – **Restore/Repurpose the Lathrop Youth Camp Campus.**

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, DOLA

Project – **Develop a Substance Abuse Treatment Facility And/or Treatment Program(s); (**Establish a program to mitigate the economic and workforce impacts associated with substance abuse. Establish a program to train and re-train frontline employees on substance abuse response and treatment)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young (Perhaps in concert with City of Walsenburg. (*See above.)*

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Foundations, USDA, HHS, DOLA, Huerfano County

Project – **Construct a New Health Department Facility in Huerfano County.**

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department.

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department, DOLA, DHSEM, CDPHE, Huerfano County

**Transportation**

Project – **EV Charging Stations Along Scenic Highway of Legends (SHOL)**

Status of Project – Planning (See PEL study)

Lead – SHOL

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – Colorado Energy Office/SIEA

Project- **Regional Transportation Assessment (Bus and Rail).**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – SCCOG

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – AMTRAK, DOT, CDOT

Project **– Expand Intercity Bus Service.** (To Walsenburg and La Veta; Expand Paratransit and On-Demand Transit Service to Cuchara and Gardner.)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – SCCOG

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, US DOT, South Central Transportation Planning Region

Project – **Bike Lanes on Highway 69.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, GOCO

Project – **Locate a Passenger Rail Station in Walsenburg. (With service to Pueblo and Beyond.)**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDOT, CDOT

Project – **Restore Scenic Railroad Service via the San Luis and Rio Grande Railroad.**

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, USDOT, Federal Transit Administration

Project – **Spanish Peaks Airport Improvements.** (Improve and Expand Spanish Peaks Regional Airfield: Build T-Hangars, Repair Runway, Add Teacup Taxiway, Renovate Terminal Building, Lengthen Runway.)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, FAA, Huerfano County

Project – **Additional Turn Lanes Off** **of 85/87 to Accommodate Traffic Turning into Businesses.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, Private Business Owners

**Other**

Project – **Street Light Repair and Replacement.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – SIEA

Project – **Plan/Develop, On and Off River Flood Control.** (Upstream from Walsenburg, La Veta, and Gardner; study, plan, and develop additional reservoirs as needed.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority, Colorado Water Conservation Board, US FEMA, Huerfano County, Huerfano County Water Conservancy Board

Project – **Examine Effect of Invasive Species and Plant Life on Water Levels.** (Take measures to responsibly correct any issues.)

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Project – **Continue and Expand Fire Hazard Mitigation Practices and Partnerships.** (Develop Potential Operational Delineations; Expand Firewise Program; Develop Ways to Handle Green Waste from Fire Mitigation.)

Status of Project - Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - USDA, DHSEM

Project – **Build an Emergency Operations Center and 911 Dispatch Facility.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – $8,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, DHSEM, Huerfano County, San Isabel Electric Association

Project – **Improve Countywide Waste Collection and Recycling Opportunities.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, DOLA, CDPHE

Project – **Fox Theatre Walsenburg Restoration and Reimagining.**

Status of Project - Revitalization

Lead – Huerfano County Economic Development Inc. Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – $11,000,000

Funding Options – Huerfano County, OEDIT, DOLA, Private Foundations

Project – **Repurpose or Reopen Shuttered Walsenburg Prison.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, US DOJ, Private Foundations

Project – **Facilitate the Development of the County Youth Conservation Corps and the Mile High Youth Conservation Corps, Wildfire Suppression Module.**

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDPHE, Huerfano County, GOCO, DHSEM, Private Foundations