**Otero 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

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging.** Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between $1 million and $5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately $100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural** **Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program.** A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: $1million

Funding Options- Grant $800 DOLA/OEDIT and $200K County match

**Agriculture/ Ranching**

Project – **USDA Certified Meat Processing Facility**

Status of Project –

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options -

**Broadband Development**

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

**Business Development**

Program - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization-** Turn iconic, historic former downtown church building into a fully utilized commercial building.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $3,000,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE, OZ, SHF, Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Boettcher, CHFA

Project - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization** Activate, beautify, and rehabilitate downtown civic spaces possibly to include utilities/roads.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta, La Junta Main Street

Project Cost Estimate -$2,500,000

Funding Options – COMS, DOLA, Rawlings Foundation, CCI

Project - **City of La Junta CORE Building-** Mixed use space. Upstairs offices, apartments, etc.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $2,500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE, OZ

Project - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization-** Downtown roof replacement program – provide incentives/matching funds for businesses to replace the roofs on their buildings.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $1,900,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA

Project - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization-** Replace roof and install AC at the St. Pat’s Office Complex. (City Owned Facility)

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Project - **City of La Junta Economic Development.** Build office/industry building. This project is to build an industrial building on a

large, municipal-owned lot that has infrastructure on site already. The idea is to create an industry within city limits that is easy to walk/bike

to and creates a mixed-use. Suggested ideas are a PPE factory or a robotics training and creation factory.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $2,000,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Program **- City of Rocky Ford Downtown Façade Painting Program.** To upgrade façade and curb appeal of Main Street Business District.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead - Economic and Community Development

Project Cost Estimate - $50,000

Funding Options – CDOT, City of Rocky Ford

Program – **La Junta Economic Development- Creation of educational/economic development ecosystem.** This program offers works

off of an assessment of local and regional sector needs and provides an ecosystem of training through local education, community college training,

independent professional training, and local makers spaces to fill the gap of local needs and create a vibrant for training capacity. We will offer

training/certification to assist in producing No Collar workers (those without degrees who are well equipped for 21st century jobs that require

creative thinking, skills such as 3-D printing, coding, robotics, and reverse engineering), trades, gig workers and entrepreneurial trades.

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta, Economic Development

Program Cost Estimate – $5,000,000 (necessary to train all needed sectors)

Funding Options- EDA, DOLA, SHF, Advisory Council on Historic/Preservation, OZ, CHF, Boettcher

Project – **La Junta Urban Renewal Blighted Properties Redevelopment (Vacancy Remediation).**  The anticipated blighted properties inventory, (estimated to exceed 15 properties, some of them in excess of 20,000 sq. ft.) needs to be addressed with the “carrot” of financial incentives to correct the current situation. Vacancy study – June. Ben Levinger, Planner.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta, LJ URA

Project Cost Estimate - $5,000,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE, OZ

Project - **City of Rocky Ford Coworking Space.** Build out of shared workspace including large format printing, 3d design, laser cutting, and commercial sewing.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Rocky Ford

Project Cost Estimate - $145,000

Funding Options – Small Town Project, private foundations, EDA

Project – **City of La Junta Public Safety Camera System**. Motorola Avigilon Public Camera System. This will help LJ deter crime in the downtown area and other high-crime areas. This will also help business development in the downtown area.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – La Junta Police Department

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Match

**Critical Infrastructure**

Project- **Complete Phase III of the Rocky Ford Public Safety Building.** Building is currently being partially utilized by Fire Department. Half of the facility is not being used. Police Department needs it.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Rocky Ford Department of Public Safety

Project Cost Estimate - $1,000,000

Funding Options – City of Rocky Ford

Project- **Arkansas Valley Conduit**. Connection to existing water system, water treatment plant improvements to accommodate new water source, and additional treatment requirements.

Status of Project – Concept/ Engineering Lead engineer contact from Tara

Lead – Southeast Water Conservancy District (Bill Long, Board of Directors)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Water Fund reserves, Drinking Water Revolving Fund, Grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB, RD, small water companies (40)

Project **- City of La Junta Water-** Water main replacement and pumps on main water tank to prevent potential disaster.

The current water mains, valves, and associated infrastructure have met or exceeded its useful service life expectancy. Exceptional system maintenance has ensured functionality so far. Replacement of this infrastructure ensures proper fire flows, enhances business opportunities, and better serves the public health.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $15,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, CDPHE

Project – **City of La Junta Industrial Park.** Install 5MW natural gas generators at Industrial Park Substation. Great project but what does this do? Redundant power? Needed for growth?

Status of Project - Engineering and design

Lead – City of La Junta, Assistant City Manager.

Project Cost Estimate - $5,000,000

Funding Options – Grant request with local and ARPA match.

Project - **Otero County Bridge Replacement**. Bridge Replacement across the county to facilitate truck traffic for agricultural entities and tourism.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate - $15,000,000

Funding Options – CDOT, DOLA, FTA, Severance Tax

Project – **City of La Junta New 1.1 MG Elevated Water Tank-** This is needed for additional capacity for development to replace current .25MG South Tank. This tank replacement will encourage and accommodate managed growth within the City of La Junta. It will also support the redevelopment of properties undergoing current or proposed change of use, physical expansion, and proposed commercial and industrial construction. This project works in conjunction with the south booster station rehabilitation/replacement and the replacement of the transmission line to the south tank.

Status of Project – Pre-construction/Engineering

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $3,000,000

Funding Options - Department funds, grants, in-kind.

Project – **City of La Junta Water North Transmission Line.** Replacement of north Tank transmission line.

Replacement of north tank transmission line will ensure and stabilize current infrastructure and promote future growth at the City of La Junta Industrial Park. It will improve the safety of the system where the line crosses an agriculture irrigation canal and the Arkansas River.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of La Junta (any county benefit?)

Project Cost Estimate - $4,300,000

Funding Options – Department funds, grants, in-kind.

Project – **City of La Junta Water New/rehabilitate south booster pump station**. The south booster station is responsible for delivery of water to approximately 45% of the city, including the hospital, dialysis center, high school, and college. Establishing a new, modern, energy efficient booster station would ensure adequate fire protection to these areas, and slow promote development in the southern area of the city, including the new nursing home facility and projected residential neighborhoods.

Status of Project – Pre-construction/Engineering

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $800,000

Funding Options – Department funds, grants, in-kind.

Project – **City of La Junta Water New/replacement transmission line to south tank**. This project works in concert with the rehabilitation/replacement of the south booster station. This is the primary line that is responsible for delivery of water to the south storage tank that serves approximately 45% of the city, including the hospital, dialysis center, high school, and college.

Status of Project – Pre-construction/Engineering

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $1,500,000

Funding Options – Department funds, grants, in-kind

Project – **City of Rocky Ford Wastewater Treatment Facility repair and upgrade**

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Rocky Ford Office of Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate - $10,000,000

Funding Options – CDPHE, DOLA, City of Rocky Ford, U.S. Army COE

Project – **City of Rocky Ford Sewer Replacement.** Replacement of sanitary sewer main in historic downtown to allow for redevelopment and expansion of commercial district.

Status of Project – Preconstruction/Engineering Replacement of Sewer Main in historic downtown to allow for redevelopment and expansion of comm dist.

Lead – Rocky Ford Department of Public Works

Project Cost Estimate - $3,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, City of Rocky Ford

Project – **City of Rocky Ford Water Distribution System Replacement.** Replacement of water main in existing city water distribution system in historic downtown to allow for redevelopment and expansion of commercial district.

Status of Project – Preconstruction/Engineering/Master Plan Pending

Lead – Rocky Ford Department of Public Works

Project Cost Estimate - $2,000,000 - $3,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, City of Rocky Ford

**Workforce Housing Strategies**

Need to add Single Family Rehab and Energy Efficiency? – Steve Cordova

Project - **City of La Junta New housing units.** Description.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $2,500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE, DOH, OZ, DOH

Project -**City of La Junta Urban Renewal – The Plaza Block Building.** Final finishes of the interior for use as a community and youth center in collaboration with Communities That Care and SECCP, a regional arts organization, as well as two apartments.

Status of Project – Rehab/Revitalization

Lead – City of La Junta, La Junta Urban Renewal Authority

Project Cost Estimate - $2,300,000

Funding Options – SHF, DOLA, USDA, CHF, CHFA, Boettcher, Regional Arts, Communities That Care

Project- **Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Efficiency Office?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Program- **Regional Development Incentives?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Program- **Otero County** **Downton Mixed-Use Living Rehab.**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project- **City of Rocky Ford -Purchase and convert 30-unit motel (name?) into 15 2-bd apartments** for affordable housing.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Small Town Project

Project Cost Estimate - $900,000

Funding Options – Small Town Project, CBDG, DOLA, CDOH, Private Foundations, PRI Loan

**Education/Work Force Development**

Project - **City of Rocky Ford. Rural Employee Workforce and Resiliency Development (REWARD) program** is a job certification and re-entry program for persons who want to re-enter the workforce and do not want to pursue a college track or are simply unable to for whatever reason. This project is a collaboration between the City of Rocky Ford, the SBDC, local businesses and other non-profits.

Status of Program – Revitalization, reinvestment

Lead – Office of Economic Community Development

Project Cost Estimate - $100,000

Funding Options – City of Rocky Ford, SBDC, DOLA, Private Funders

Project - **City of Rocky Ford School District - Replace two aging elementary school buildings** with a PK-8 addition to the Junior Senior High School Building.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Rocky Ford School District

Project Cost Estimate - $47,500,000

Funding Options - BEST Grant: $39,871,196 Local Match $7,628,804

Project **– Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming.

Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent

Project Cost Estimate – Not Given

Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

**Renewable Energy**

**Project – City of La Junta Industrial Park Solar Generation.** Install 10MW solar generationat Industrial Park Substation.

Status of Project – Engineering and design being completed.

Lead - City of La Junta, Assistant City Manager

Project Cost Estimate - $10,000,000 needed for 5MW natural gas generation and 5-10 MW solar generation at the La Junta Industrial

Park. This includes upgrades to existing sub-station Tie-Breaker and transformers. This will allow La Junta to stabilize the power supply

from the grid to avoid brown outs from high usage during peak times. This will stabilize the power supply.

Funding Options – Grant request with local match

**Recreation and Tourism**

Project - **City of La Junta Recreation. Convert two city blocks** **into college soccer field**, enhancing athlete recruitment (OJC) and providing additional recreation spaces for La Junta youth.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate – $1,500,000

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, GOCO

Project - **City of La Junta Recreation?.** Install HVAC at The Fairway Restaurant at The City Golf Course.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate – $500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Project - **City of Rocky Ford - Fairground improvement and renovation** (multiple projects).

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Ark Valley Fair Board

Project Cost Estimate - $2,270,000

Funding Options –EDA, DOLA, USDA, private bank funding, GOCO (married with other projects), Otero County, donations/fundraisers, Tourism, History Colorado

Project **- City of La Junta Historic Kiva Preservation.** The Kiva is inching in on 75 years in existence and requires significant upgrades

for displays, HVAC, building grading, electrical, lighting, interior damage from roof leakage (roof is being replaced now), water pipe replacement,

janitorial services, and ADA bathrooms.

Status of Project – Plans Prepared

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $600,000

Funding Options – History Colorado, Enterprise Zone, Contribution Project, DOLA, Tourism

Project **- City of La Junta Historic Preservation. Upgrade HVAC and plumbing at the Armory Building.** The HVAC at the building is

not functioning well and is outdated. The system needs replacing now as the City has started using the building or youth recreational programs.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

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

Project-

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

**Transportation**

Project - **City of La Junta Airport Addition.** Install additional airplane hangars at the airport. The use at the La Junta Airport has increased

with Doss Aviation needing to house aircraft at the airport. Additionally, we could house additional aircraft that is currently on the waiting list.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Project - **City of La Junta Airport Rehabilitation.** Rehabilitate a WWII airplane hangar for a museum. The WWII hangar located at the

La Junta Airport is the last standing hangar from the WWII era. The condition of the structure is in immediate need of repair and rebuild.

Status of Project – Phase 1

Lead - City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate -$330,000

Funding Options – DOLA, City of La Junta

Project - **City of La Junta Transit Center.** Create transit center to serve Amtrak, bus services and as a destination center for learning about La Junta, local business and tourism.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead - City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - $5,000,000

Funding Options – Federal Transit Administration, REDI, CDOT, STP Funds, New Starts, Small Starts, TIGER

Project – **City of La Junta LHX Municipal Airport Runway Rebuild. Mill and rebuild runway** 12/30, 5280’ X 60.’ Runway 12/30 is the

cross wind runway at LHX. It has not had any surface treatment or rehab in the last 20 years and is nearing total breakdown of the surface.

A delay in resurfacing will render the runway unusable.

Status of Project – Engineering and design

Lead – City of La Junta, Assistant City Manager, Airport Manager

Project Cost Estimate - $4,065,600

Funding Options – Grant request

**Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure**

Project – **Otero County 16th Judicial District Court**. District and county courts have outgrown the current space currently at Sheriff Department and in bad repair. Feasibility study/$38 million dollar project stopped with the onset of COVID.

Project Status – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, sales tax increase, loan

Project – **Otero County Detention Center**. Otero County is in need of a detention center.

Project Status – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, sales tax increase, loan

Project – **City of La Junta PD Training Facility Overhead Cover.** Sun and weather overhead cover at the training facility. This will assist with

mandated training during inclement weather.

Status of Project – In Progress

Lead – La Junta Police Department

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Match

**Other**

Project **– Otero County Hwy 50 Access to Bent’s Fort**. Access to Bent’s Fort via HWY 50. More needed on project. Is this tourism related?

Public access to Bent’s Fort via Hwy 50 – walking bridge across the Arkansas River, walking paths for birding, picnicking – for tourism and

economic development.

Project Status – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, GOCO, Conservative Trust Funds, Water Conservancy grants, collaboration with Bent’s Fort.