



Staff Report

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: August 25, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: Courtney Sladek, Administration

ITEM TYPE: Agenda Item

AGENDA SECTION: CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON

SUBJECT: City Development Corporation Funding of \$100,000 for the Northside Center Auditorium Audio-Visual Upgrades

BACKGROUND:

Background:

- Since 2023, NEC has been executing its Auditorium Renovation Project, a multi-phase effort totaling \$1,821,000. To date, 65% of the goal (\$1,160,100) has been raised.
- Completed Phases:
 - *Phase I:* Demolition and cleanup (\$346,207.41)
 - *Phase II:* Structural, safety, and entry improvements (\$225,000)
 - *Phase III:* Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (\$490,000, currently in progress)
- The next priority is equipping the auditorium with advanced audio-visual technology to support professional presentations, workforce training, business development programs, and community events.

Rationale for Request:

- Current room capacity is only 30, limiting the CDC's ability to host business presentations and trainings. The renovation will expand capacity to 120 seats, necessitating upgraded AV infrastructure.
- Equipment includes wireless/wired microphones, monitors, speakers, soundboards, and supporting technology to ensure high-quality presentations and scalability for future needs.
- After reviewing competitive bids, NEC selected A-1 as the most cost-effective and future-ready provider, with a total package of \$122,883.20 (including structural and electrical facilitation).

CDC Action:

- At its July 28, 2025, meeting, the CDC Board unanimously approved funding up to \$100,000 for the project.

- As per policy, any funding exceeding \$25,000 requires City Council approval.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

ATTACHMENTS:

[CouncilAgendaItem Request NEC_AUG2025.pdf](#)