

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana's Market at the Square Quarterly Progress Report March 18th, 2020

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Introduction

The following Urbana's Market at the Square Quarterly Progress Report describes activities of Urbana's Market at the Square for the Urbana's Market Advisory Board. The report includes information regarding projects that are in progress, recent requests and recommendations from the public, staff activities, and upcoming events.

SNAP Program Update

- Market staff submitted a request to extend the funding of our 2019 Link UP Illinois grant in the amount of \$4,004.00.
- Market staff submitted an application for 2020 SNAP matching funds from Link UP Illinois. The requested amount of \$4,000 would cover a 15% increase in SNAP program utilization over last year's levels. The future of this funding is uncertain due to a lack of federal funding to support this grant.
- Funding for support of the SNAP match program from Farm Credit Illinois for the 2020 season has not yet been secured. We expect a response in the next few weeks.
- The Land Connection's proposal to the United Way in support of a local, universal match program made it to the interview stage. They expect to hear back from the committee in the next few months.

Covid 19

• The situation with the Corona virus is highly fluid and the potential impact on the Market season is hard to gauge at this point. We are currently of the mind to not panic and see how things develop locally over the next few weeks. We will be considering contingency plans should the situation worsen but for now we expect to move forward as usual.