Proposal Name: Thank APE - Phase II: Amplifying a Movement

Proposal Category: Ecosystem Fund Allocation

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TEAM DESCRIPTION

ThriveCoin

Thank APE is powered by ThriveCoin and the Thrive Protocol.

We have supported ApeCoin at scale through 2023 - funding more projects for the DAO than the entire AIP process combined (more below). In addition to our work with ApeCoin, we support Arbitrum, Optimism, and others. We are trusted by more than 150k contributors, ~60% contribute value across ecosystems.

We have scaled platforms and protocols to support millions of users, and we are funded by OG web3 VCs, including HashKey Capital, Youbi Capital, BitScale, Continue Capital, Lightning Capital, and Gaingels - early investors in many of the leading L1, L2, and DeFi blockchains and protocols.

Most importantly, we are Apes and OG members of this community. Our first significant community-wide deployment was this one - Thank APE. Our work together with you is personal: this is our community. We are committed to achieving extraordinary results for you; for us.

10 members of our team directly support Thank APE - some of us full-time and the rest daily. Additionally, we currently have 16 more team members continuing to build and improve underlying infrastructure that continuously improves the quality of our work.

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Thank APE Board

The Thank APE board includes well-respected, OG members of the ApeCoin community. They have worked tirelessly with the ThriveCoin team to create immense value for ApeCoin.

The Thank APE board's primary responsibility is to gather feedback and data from the community and make board-level decisions about implementation, rules, contribution paths, contribution types, reward amounts, and validations.

The board has standing meetings twice a week for a few hours, and they work on Thank APE specific projects throughout the week. Current board members include:

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ABSTRACT

ApeCoin must create value now. To do that, we must attract, fund, and coordinate the best talent to address our DAO's biggest needs. Speed and accuracy matter. Trust matters. Automation and decentralization matter. Utility is essential.

Thank APE - Phase II is a one-year initiative that proposes to:

- Continuously sense into the biggest needs and opportunities for ApeCoin DAO
- · Attract, fund, and coordinate the best talent to quickly respond to those needs
- · Incentivize community members to engage and support value-creating projects

Initially funded nearly a year ago, Thank APE has attracted, funded, and coordinated more talent to create value for

ApeCoin DAO than the rest of our DAO AIP process - combined. And we've done it with less than 0.4% of the treasury.

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Thank APE's Motivation:

We are Apes. Our motivation is to create enormous value for ApeCoin DAO - by rewarding and recognizing valuable decentralized contributions to our DAO. We've been doing this since our first Thank APE Proposal <u>AIP-124</u> passed almost a year ago.

Our motivation - combined with our tech and expertise, and your partnership - has helped support significant accomplishments since we launched in April of this year. We've done it all through a bear market, decreasing ApeCoin value, and wide-ranging coordination problems in the DAO:

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Thank APE Renewal Designs

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Recently, big proposals have passed that reflect a shared realization that we must create more value now. Examples include <u>AIP-297</u>, <u>AIP-304</u>, and <u>AIP-317</u> - all of which are seeking to shake things up and help build value in new, big ways for our DAO.

While the impact of these proposals isn't yet known, the DAO recognized they we must invest to ignite an ecosystem whose future depends on us. Thank APE is proposing another big bet - one that, we believe, addresses the biggest need in the DAO:

We must create greater value, utility, and efficiency in our DAO now.

To do that, our Thank APE - Phase II will support effective decision-making and allocation of resources - and attract, fund, and coordinate top talent that quickly addresses the biggest needs in the DAO.

- Our DAO has passed some proposals but few have created significant impact yet.
- Our DAO has organized into various groups but much is still left to be desired.
- Our DAO has built some things but not enough people use them and none generate revenue.

Thank APE has already been a consistent force in ApeCoin DAO fixated on solving this massive need. We've funded and coordinated the building of hundreds of projects creating value in alignment with the feedback of our community and the needs of our DAO.

Background:

Our ApeCoin community was founded with a simple mission of driving culture forward into the metaverse. This mission requires building a thriving ecosystem around our culture and community.

A year ago, we had a treasury war chest valued in the billions. Today that same treasury is valued at a fraction of what it was. This is largely because the DAO has generally had a hard time consistently attracting top talent to contribute to our ecosystem.

There is a simple reason for this: Passing an AIP in our DAO environment is hard. It requires that a builder also be a diplomat and a salesperson, not get paid for months, and - at times - put themselves in the crosshairs of public misinformation campaigns from people with their own interests.

Top builders don't need to put themselves through that kind of pain. They can fund their projects in easier ways than our AIP process provides. For example, ThriveCoin is funded by well-recognized web3 VCs, all of which provided an easiest, less stressful path than passing an ApeCoin AIP.

Thank APE has been changing this.

Through Thank APE, top builders have been able to quickly and easily contribute to ApeCoin DAO in ways that are aligned with the biggest needs of our DAO. The impact is that we've attracted thousands of new contributors that has resulted in hundreds of new projects for ApeCoin DAO.

[EDIT: To get a sense of how well Thank APE has functioned in Phase I, please look at the many stories shared in

comments below.]

This is just the beginning. With Phase II, we are doubling down on everything that's worked, making our tech even more accessible and extensible, and focusing all of our energy on attracting greater builders from across our ecosystem to build with ApeCoin!

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With Phase II, we are proposing to take a bigger role in helping our ApeCoin community create greater value, efficiency, and utility now

. Our shared future requires that we get this right.

BENEFIT TO THE APECOIN ECOSYSTEM

ApeCoin must expand the size of our talent pool and continue to create more and more value now. This requires being faster, better, and bolder.

Thank APE is proposing to expand our role as a trusted party in maximizing value creation for our DAO - and doing it in a way that ensures greater utility, value, and efficiency across our decentralized community. The benefit to the ApeCoin ecosystem will be:

- Greater community-wide clarity about the biggest needs of our ecosystem
- · Quick, precise funding of decentralized talent to address our biggest needs
- Incentives for members to use and engage projects addressing our biggest needs

We expect to predominately serve three areas of known ecosystem needs (the details of which will be further clarified in the continuous Sense process described below):

- Tech builders: e.g. development teams, developers, etc.
- Culture builders: e.g. influencers, artists, writers, events, local communities, etc.
- Small businesses: e.g. online and offline merchants, service providers, etc.
- ** If ApeChain is funded, we intend to be a strong support for onboarding and building on ApeChain.
- ** We intend to give special consideration to projects that drive revenue for the ApeCoin ecosystem.

PLATFORMS & TECHNOLOGIES

Platforms and Technologies

Thank APE uses ThriveCoin and Thrive Protocol Technology, and integrates with dozens of protocols and platforms via API or by reading on-chain data. Below is high-level overview of the existing tech and our ApeCoin development priorities for the next six months:

Thank Ape Platform and Technologies - via ThriveCoin and Thrive Protocol

- · Surfaces valuable contributions across platforms and protocols
- Enables commitments to a broad range of contributions
- · Multiple layers of bot and bad actor protection at scale
- Protocol and application layer validation of contribution activity
- · Claimable contribution rewards at the end of a season; donation capability
- On-chain attestations (thank you notes) for all contributions
- · Accessible contribution and contribution data, leaderboards

Thank APE Development Priorities - 2024

- Open Thrive Protocol supporting all developer activity
- · Vastly increased scope of validations capability
- User segmentation with badging for different contribution types
- · Reputation score based on contribution history and data
- Dashboard with all core metrics accessible by the community
- · Dozens more partner integrations focusing on ApeCoin builders
- · Improved reward claiming faster, cheaper, more flexible
- Improved speed and scale constant infrastructure improvements
- ** (if passed) extensive ApeChain support

STEPS TO IMPLEMENT & TIMELINE

Thank APE - Phase II is a one-year initiative that proposes to:

- Continuously sense into the biggest needs of ApeCoin DAO
- · Attract, fund, and coordinate the best talent to quickly respond to those needs
- Incentivize members to use / engage projects addressing those needs

To achieve this, we will deploy resources in three phases - Sense, Respond, Grow

1. SENSE

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2. RESPOND

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3. GROW

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- ** ThriveCoin and the Thrive Protocol provide the support protocol and application layer for Thank APE, as we have done for the past year.
- ** The Thank APE Board and ThriveCoin (engineering, custom integrations) provide ongoing support and coverage, as we have done throughout Phase I.

OVERALL COST

We request 4.2M APE for a 1-year deployment. Like with Phase I, the proposal is 100% Performance-based.

- 80% of requested funds allocated back to the ApeCoin community for value-creating contributions.
- 20% allocated to service provider fees.

Below is an overview of how we expect to allocate funds for Phase 2 over one year (final allocations clarified during ongoing Sense processes, which all community members can influence):

3.36 million APE allocated back to the community in the form of rewards. Includes:

- 1.68M to Tech Builders
- 1.18M to Culture Builders
- 500k to Small Businesses
- · 336k to Emerging Opportunities

840k APE allocated to ThriveCoin, Thank APE Board, and other support services. Includes:

305k - Protocol and Platform Design & Development

- Product Architecture, Design, and Management 70k
- Backend Development Support 90k
- Dashboard / UI Development Support 50k
- UI/UX Design 10k
- QA 20k
- Admin Dashboard UI Development 25k
- Smart Contract Development 20k
- Smart Contract Audit 20k (third party)

400k - Deployment Support, Partnerships, Community, Legal

- · Community Project Manager 60k
- Integrations / Contributions Specialist 60k
- · Community Relations / Support 60k
- Community Management / Moderation 60k
- · Data Analyst 40k
- Funding Allocator 60k
- Event Management 40k
- Legal 20k

75k - Hosting Costs

- AWS Infrastructure Costs 60k
- Blockchain Indexing / Data Storage 15k

60k - Thank APE Board Members not part of the APE Foundation

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LAST THOUGHTS

Now is a critical moment for all of us at ApeCoin. We must together create the value we wish to see in our DAO - so that we grow our status as leaders in a space we've together pioneered.

During 2023, Thank APE has taken a leading role in inspiring thousands of people and hundreds of projects to create value for ApeCoin. When much of the DAO world has been quiet, we've actively pushed to go bigger, help more, and create enduring value for ApeCoin.

Thank APE - Phase II proposes to build on the work we've done. We are doubling down on what's worked, learning from what hasn't, and adding enormous new capability along the way.

We believe in the future of our ApeCoin community. We look forward to continuing to work hard for you and our community - and to honoring your hard work. We are excited to hear your thoughts and feedback as we prepare to create enormous value for ApeCoin DAO with you in Phase II.

Thank you. Thank APE!

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