



Department Source: Public Health and Human Services

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 2, 2023

Re: Intended Use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds

Executive Summary

A resolution stating Council intent to utilize American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and directing staff to negotiate agreements for Council consideration.

Discussion

The City of Columbia received \$25.2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to address the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first half of the funding was designated for initiatives related to:

- Homelessness
- Community violence
- Behavioral crisis care mental health services
- Workforce development.

Council requested that the second half be allocated to priority areas identified by the community. A community-wide survey was conducted during the month of June 2022 to gather feedback. The survey data was accompanied by conversations collected via focus groups, which were conducted in the month of August, 2022. Council selected five priority areas for funding consideration for the second half of the funding:

- Access to Services
- Affordable Housing
- Mental Health Access
- Homelessness
- Workforce Development/Support

Between January and April of 2023 staff published a series of requests for proposals for the above priority areas. An internal review team evaluated the letters of intent based on the following criteria: ARPA priority, demonstration of need, efficiency, equity impact, outcome measurement, financial sustainability, and strategic plan alignment. Ninety-one letters of intent were submitted totaling \$95,962,178. Proposals were scored and those who scored above average were invited to submit a full proposal. Fifty-one (51) full proposals were submitted totaling \$31,593,304.86.

The full proposals were evaluated by a mayoral appointed and council approved ARPA committee. The committee reviewed the proposals. Recommendations and findings were presented to Council by the Committee Chair.



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Council further reviewed the proposals along with the recommendations from the ARPA Committee. The following summarizes the funding recommendations by priority area:

- Access to Services - \$1,325,000
- Affordable Housing - \$8,600,000
- Community Violence - \$2,170,000
- Homelessness - \$5,665,000
- Mental Health - \$3,000,000
- Workforce Development - \$2,449,961
- Workforce Support - \$1,324,663
- Capacity Building - \$750,000

Exhibit A includes the organizations and proposals Council intends to fund.

If Exhibit A is approved, staff from Public Health and Human Services, Finance and Law Departments will coordinate with the organizations receiving funds to develop appropriate agreements for Council approval.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$25,284,624 of American Rescue Plan Act funding will be allocated.
Long-Term Impact: Enter the cost of proposed legislation to the city for years **beyond two**.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Resilient Economy, Secondary Impact: Safe Community, Tertiary Impact: Inclusive and Equitable Community

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
5/15/23	REP28-23 Update on the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)
4/17/2023	B74-23 Authorizing an affordable housing funding agreement with Housing Authority of the City of Columbia and Park Avenue Housing Development Group, LP for the issuance of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to replace downtown public housing units on Park Avenue.



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2/7/2023	Joint Work Session with County Commissioners to update on City of Columbia ARPA process and Boone County ARPA process.
7/18/2022	Pre-Council meeting -ARPA Presentation of survey results.
3/21/2022	B80-22 Authorizing an agreement with Moberly Area Community College for workforce development scholarships, funding for training programs, and facility leasing assistance; amending the FY22 Annual Budget by appropriating funds.
3/21/2022	B81-22 Authorizing an agreement with the Business Loop Community Improvement District to fund a shared commercial kitchen program and scholarship assistance; amending the FY22 Annual Budget by appropriating funds.
3/21/2022	B82-22 Authorizing an agreement with Job Point to fund the purchase of a training simulator, software, and the acquisition and renovation of real estate; amending the FY22 Annual Budget by appropriating funds.
2/21/2022	Pre-Council Meeting - Presentation on ARPA community engagement process.
10/4/2021	Pre-Council Meeting - ARPA process discussion.

Suggested Council Action

Approve Intended Use of ARPA Funds (Exhibit A) and direct staff to negotiate agreements with selected organizations for future Council review and approval.