



CITY OF YORK

**AMERICAN RESCUE
PLAN ACT (ARPA)
RECOVERY PLAN
RECOMMENDATIONS
AND ACTIONS**

FY2021-22

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I. Executive Summary

The City of York envisions an equitable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is a critical resource to help make that a reality. According to usfacts.org, as of January 28, 2022, the County of York has suffered 1,358 deaths from COVID-19 and over 112,762 infected cases. Additionally, widespread economic losses have occurred across multiple sectors with thousands of jobs lost at the height of the pandemic. Restaurants, bars, travel, and retail businesses were the hardest-hit sectors. Although reopening parts of the economy have helped, recovery may not be realized for many months, or even years, and may never return to pre-COVID levels. Not only have businesses suffered, working families with children have been deeply affected by the disruption to in-person public schooling. The impacts of these losses have disproportionately impacted low-income families, communities of color, and communities of primarily foreign-born residents.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by President Biden. ARPA provides direct relief to all 19,000 cities, towns and villages across the United States affected by COVID-19. The purpose of ARPA is to support pandemic recovery efforts, replace public sector lost revenue, spur job growth, jump start economic growth through household and business stabilization and address systemic public health and economic challenges. Overall, the City of York can expect to receive **\$35.3 million** from [ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds](#). To date, efforts have been made to help categorize priorities to help launch recovery for the City of York and its residents. Funds do not have to be obligated until December 31, 2024, and unexpended funds are not subject to recapture or return until December 31, 2026.

An initial \$17,652,353.50 million in funding has been received by the City of York from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act to meet our most urgent needs. Overall, the greatest investment of funds at this time is to address **priority infrastructure needs, public safety, and revenue replacement**. Our second largest investment will be to allocate funding to provide **healthcare** in combating the negative health impacts of COVID and providing services to disproportionately impacted communities. The city will also look to provide economic assistance to residents, qualified non-profits, and certified small businesses within the City of York.

In referencing [The Interim Final Rule](#) (IFR), The City of York experienced a significant loss of revenue largely driven by declines in revenue generating development and fee-based services such as building permits, licensing and parking revenue. To address some of these losses, funding will be provided for revenue replacement. The revenue replacement will be transferred to designated funds to provide for government services and allow for investments in post-covid recovery efforts.

While identifying the use of funds for our priority needs and revenue replacement, the City concurrently began developing a transformative plan for the use of the remaining dollars over the next four years, recognizing that this funding represents a once-in-a-generation investment capable of transforming our city's future. This process began with a steering committee of City leaders who worked with the mayor to identify the gaps and inequities worsened by COVID-19 and identify goals, strategies, and focus areas to combat these inequities. The six key gap areas identified were (1) **public safety**, (2) **healthy communities and neighborhoods**, (3) **economic impact**, (4) **educational disparities**, (5) **healthcare**, and (6) **broadband infrastructure**. These gaps are discussed further in Section V.

This plan recommends funding to cover identified priorities and gap funding for areas as identified by city officials, city staff, and the public, as well as suggested initiatives and procedures.



II. Expense Categories

Funding must fit into one of the following four (4) statutory categories:

- To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers;
- For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency; and,
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure

These uses are split into the following summary expenditure categories:

- EC1. Public Health
- EC2. Negative Economic Impacts
- EC3. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities
- EC4. Premium Pay
- EC5. Infrastructure
- EC6. Revenue Replacement
- EC7. Administrative

All ARPA award funds must be used in compliance with these requirements. [The Interim Final Rule](#) (IFR) details compliance responsibilities and provides additional information on eligible and restricted uses. On January 6, 2022, the United States Treasury issued the final ruling, which responds to public comments, implements the ARPA statutory provisions on eligible and ineligible uses of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), and makes several [changes to the provisions of the interim final rule](#). Each expenditure category has distinct reporting requirements.

Eligible Uses by Expense Category/Subcategory

The following are eligible uses by expense categories/subcategories as further detailed in the Interim Final Rule (IFR):

Public Health (EC1):

- 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination
- 1.2 COVID-19 Testing
- 1.3 COVID-19 Contact Tracing
- 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings
- 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment



- 1.6 Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)
- 1.7 Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- 1.8 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)
- 1.9 Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19
- 1.10 Mental Health Services
- 1.11 Substance Use Services
- 1.12 Other Public Health Services

Negative Economic Impacts (EC2):

- 2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs
- 2.2 Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid
- 2.3 Household Assistance: Cash Transfers
- 2.4 Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs
- 2.5 Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention
- 2.6 Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers
- 2.7 Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)
- 2.8 Contributions to UI Trust Funds
- 2.9 Small Business Economic Assistance
- 2.10 Aid to nonprofit organizations
- 2.11 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality
- 2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries
- 2.13 Other Economic Support
- 2.14 Rehiring Public Sector Staff

Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC3):

- 3.1 Education Assistance: Early Learning
- 3.2 Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts
- 3.3 Education Assistance: Academic Services
- 3.4 Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services
- 3.5 Education Assistance: Other
- 3.6 Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care
- 3.7 Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting
- 3.8 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System
- 3.9 Healthy Childhood Environments: Other
- 3.10 Housing Support: Affordable Housing
- 3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons
- 3.12 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance
- 3.13 Social Determinants of Health: Other
- 3.14 Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators
- 3.15 Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation
- 3.16 Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions



Premium Pay (EC4):

- 4.1 Public Sector Employees
- 4.2 Private Sector: Grants to other employers

Infrastructure (EC5)

- 5.1 Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment
- 5.2 Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance
- 5.3 Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater
- 5.4 Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows
- 5.5 Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure
- 5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater
- 5.7 Clean Water: Energy conservation
- 5.8 Clean Water: Water conservation
- 5.9 Clean Water: Nonpoint source
- 5.10 Drinking water: Treatment
- 5.11 Drinking water: Transmission & distribution
- 5.12 Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation
- 5.13 Drinking water: Source
- 5.14 Drinking water: Storage
- 5.15 Drinking water: Other water infrastructure
- 5.16 Broadband: "Last Mile" projects
- 5.17 Broadband: Other projects

Revenue Replacement (EC6)

- 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Administrative and Other (EC7)

- 7.1 Administrative Expenses
- 7.2 Evaluation and data analysis
- 7.3 Transfers to Other Units of Government

III. Use of Funds

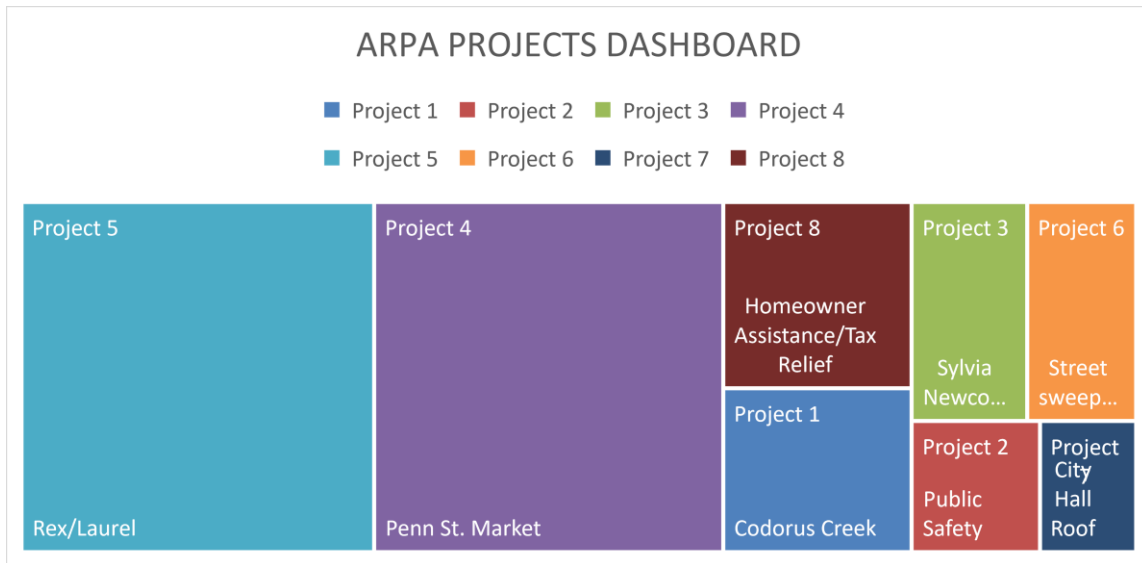
The City of York is taking a holistic approach and will look to use a variety of funding (additional federal relief, indirect cost center, grants, etc.) sources available to us to support our recovery plan including the use of a bidding process and requests for proposals where applicable.

To see how these funds are being put to work, an ARPA Projects Public Dashboard will be created and posted on the city's website. Although the dashboard is a work in progress, it is hoped this will provide information such as project name, amount allocated, expenditure category, project description, project website (if available), project timeline, and project contact person. Color codes will be applied to reflect the expenditure category the project falls under, i.e., public health,



infrastructure, revenue replacement, etc. Each project will fall under an expenditure category (EC) to differentiate between the various priorities. A snapshot of the proposed dashboard is shown below in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Sample ARPA Projects Dashboard



The City of York will look to use additional funds to address the gaps that widened during the pandemic. To further understand these gaps, the city will undertake an extensive community engagement process called “A Better York: Listening Campaign” to incorporate feedback from surveys, residents, municipal departments, organizations, and businesses within the City of York. Ultimately, this feedback will be used to develop several plans that can address these gaps, with a particular emphasis on equitable outcomes. The goal is to use the remaining funds most effectively by identifying intersectional solutions to these problems.

Recommendations for local ARPA allocations are as follows: **(As of 8/17/22, actual expenditures have yet to be determined as an appropriate expenditure process has not been established.)**

ARPA FUNDING ACCEPTANCE AND PROCESS

ACTION:

ARPA Funding Acceptance - First Tranche \$17,652,353.50 ([Bill No. 47, Ordinance No. 47](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Amendment to City of York 2021 Budget to show revenue for the accepted American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$17,652,353.50

ARPA – Funding Acceptance – First Tranche \$17,652,353.50 ([Resolution 88 of 2021](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved August 17, 2021

Accepting American Rescue Plan Act Funds – First Tranche in the amount of \$17,652,353.50.

ARPA Process ([Resolution No. 40](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 15, 2022

Adopting an American Rescue Plan Act of 2021” or “ARPA” process to appropriate ARPA funding to aid local recovery.



**ARPA – Funding Acceptance – Second Tranche \$17,652,353.50 ([Resolution No. 90](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved August 16, 2022**

Accepting American Rescue Plan Act Funds – Second Tranche in the amount of \$17,652,353.50.

City Services and Infrastructure: \$9,000,000

Expense Category: EC1; EC3; EC4

- **Rex Laurel Renovations: \$750,000**
Expense Category: EC6

[The Laurel/Rex](#) fire station is a historic, two-story Italianate style firehouse in downtown York. The oldest building, the Laurel engine house was constructed in 1877-1878 as a hand-drawn fire engine house. The building was constructed of brick and was painted in the traditional cream and brown Victorian scheme. The original engine house was expanded in 1887 when a horse stable was added to the rear of the building, and in 1891-1892 when the Rex Hook & Ladder Company's truck house was built adjoining the Laurel's engine house. At the southwest corner of the building is a three-story bell tower, and on the northwest corner is a second faux bell tower atop the Rex truck house. The station measures 48 by 96 feet. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The station is one of the oldest continuously operating fire stations in the United States. – Source: [LaurelRex.com](#)

We can learn a lot from older buildings. They are landmarks that portray the history of generations before us as well as the architectural and design features that are no longer used today. Old buildings help us to maintain a connection to our past and bring a certain character and charm to our neighborhoods. Just think of what our cities would look like if we tore down all the historical buildings and replaced them with new ones. It would not only diminish our city's heritage, but also our sense of pride. Before eyeing up the aesthetics of this historic structure, funding will focus on any repairs that are needed to fix the roof, windows, and foundation.

ACTION:

**Rex/Laurel Fire Station Renovations ([Bill No. 11](#), [Ordinance No. 10](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved on March 15, 2022**

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) York City Fire Department to fund Rex/Laurel Fire Station Renovations by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00; (2) Community & Economic Development to fund Penn Street Market Renovations by appropriating revenue and expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00.

Associated Documents:

- Amending the FY2021 City Budget for the Fire Department by appropriating revenue and expenditure for architect/engineer/consultant services for the Rex/Laurel Fire Station renovation in the amount of \$35,251.92. ([Bill No. 20](#), [Ordinance 19](#)) Approved April 5, 2022.
- Amending the York City Budget for the year 2021 by appropriating revenue



and expenditures for the Department of Fire/Rescue in the amount of \$70,000.00 to be used for Architectural/ Engineering / Consultant Fees for the RexLaurel Fire Station Renovations. ([Bill No. 35, Ordinance No. 35](#)) ([Minutes](#)) Approved September 21, 2021. Business Administrator Memo ([Read](#))

- **Penn Street Market Renovations \$750,000**

Expense Category: EC6

[Penn Market](#), is a 155-year-old, 23,000 square building located at 380 W. Market St. In 2018, the York City Redevelopment Authority Board secured Buchart Horn, an engineering and architecture firm, for the renovation process, which eventually stalled due to funding constraints. Located in a predominately lower-income section of the city, if restored, this building would serve the needs of some of our most underserved residents by offering fresh meat, fruits, and vegetables. ([BH Capital Needs Assessment](#))

ACTION:

([Bill No. 11, Ordinance No. 10](#)) ([Minutes](#)) ([Penn Market Deed & RDA Resolution](#))

Approved on March 15, 2022 ([Penn Market Renovation Background](#))

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) York City Fire Department to fund Rex/Laurel Fire Station Renovations by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00; (2) Community & Economic Development to fund Penn Street Market Renovations by appropriating revenue and expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00.

- **City Hall Roof Replacement: \$2,750,000**

Expense Category: EC6

One of the most important components of a building is the roof. Without a solid roof, you do not have a solid, well taken care of building. No matter the business, you need to keep those inside safe and secure. This means that you need to take care of your roof, especially as it ages. Here are some risks of an aging roof. The risks of aging roofs can include:

Poor Ventilation

Poor ventilation is a big problem with aging roofs. When you have poor ventilation, the condensation becomes trapped between the layers of the roof. This can lead to roof deterioration and damage to flashing. (Please ensure it is an air purifier.)

Damaged Shingles

Over time, shingles become damaged. When this happens, your torn shingles can allow moisture a point to penetrate the layers of the roof. If you see damaged shingles, it is important that you get them looked at as soon as possible.

High Utility Bills

When your roof ages, the damage like excessive water and poor ventilation can lead to your heating and cooler mechanisms to start working in overdrive. This leads to



higher utility bills.

Ice Buildup

Aging roofs run the risk of ice buildup creating leaks and roof rot.

Mold and Mildew

Aging roofs can cause damage to ceilings and walls. Mildew and mold stains can damage the inside of your structure.

Paint Peeling

Older roofs can lead to peeling paint, fading, and blistering. This often happens if your attic does not have proper airflow or ventilation.

Leaking Water

It's important there is no leaking water into the structure.

Funding would allow appropriate remediation of any of the risk factors affecting the roofs of various city-owned buildings which will not only protect our investment but would most importantly protect our employees and visitors.

- **Blighted Property Acquisition: \$500,000**
Expense Category: EC6

ACTION:

- **Demolition – Emergency (38 E. South St.)** ([Bill No. 25, Ordinance No. 24](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved April 19, 2022
Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the FY2022 York City Budget in the amount of \$77,000 in American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funding for demolition of the property located at 38 East South Street, City of York, County of York, PA, by A Plus Inc.
Associated Documents:
Approving agreement with A Plus Inc. ([Res. 48 of 2022](#))
- **Demolition – Emergency (38 E. South St.)** ([Bill No. 57, Ordinance No. 54](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved November 1, 2022
Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Permits & Inspections to fund the unexpected additional cost to the emergency demolition of 38 East South Street in the amount of \$59,300.00.
- **City Council Chambers A/V Update: \$20,000** ([View Requests](#))
Expense Category: EC6

ACTION:

ARPA Miscellaneous Expenses ([Bill No. 26, Ordinance No. 25](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved April 19, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating



expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00; (2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00.

- **Penn Park Solar Lights: \$85,000**

Expense Category: EC6

ACTION:

Parks - Bantz & Williams Parks Upgrades; Penn Park Solar Lights ([Bill No. 4, Ordinance No. 3](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Parks/Recreation to fund upgrades at Bantz and Williams Parks and the installation of solar lights at Penn Park by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$285,000.00.

- **White Rose TV Update: \$3,000** ([View Requests](#))

Expense Category: EC6

ACTION:

ARPA Miscellaneous Expenses ([Bill No. 26, Ordinance No. 25](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved April 19, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00; (2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00.

- **Princess Street Garage** ([Capital Needs Assessment](#)) **and Emergency Parking Garage Lighting: \$800,000**

Expense Category: EC3, EC4, EC6



- **Penn Market Business Start-Up Subsidy Grants: \$180,000** ([View Requests](#))

Expense Category: EC2

ACTION:

ARPA Miscellaneous Expenses ([Bill No. 26, Ordinance No. 25](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved April 19, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00; (2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00.

- **3E Grant for MBE/WBE: \$225,000** ([View Requests](#))

Expense Category: EC2

ACTION:

ARPA Miscellaneous Expenses ([Bill No. 26, Ordinance No. 25](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved April 19, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00; (2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00.

- **Police-ShotSpotter/Trauma Informed Care/GVI/Public Safety: \$2,000,000**

Expense Category: EC3; EC4 ([View Police ARPA Proposal](#))

ACTION:

Police – Cadet Program/GVI/York Initiative/TelePolicing/Victim Program ([Bill No. 9, Ordinance 6](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for York City Police Department to fund a Police Cadet



Program, GVI/Credible Messengers, a second GVI Street Team, the Shotspotter/Trauma Informed Care Program, [Small Unmanned Aircraft System \(sUAS\) Program](#), Building Rehab/Reprogram York Initiative, Tele-Policing Program, and a Victim Notification/Follow-Up/Officer Satisfaction Program by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$2,335,641.83. (Funding for Shotspotter & Drone removed)

Cameras

Police accountability and transparency are improved when actions are documented through video. Funding will be sourced for city-wide and body cameras for local police officers, storage for body camera footage, and other technology to enhance transparency.

Radios

Communication across various disciplines and geographical areas is critical to public safety efforts. Enhancements for interoperable or ineffective communication is needed. Funding will be allocated to fund mobile and portable radios and software/network enabling sites and services.

Personnel

The IFR specifically states that fiscal recovery funds can be spent on payroll, covered benefit, and other costs associated with the recipient increasing the number of its employees up to the number of employees that it employed on January 27, 2020. Funding will be earmarked to hire additional positions up to the number of employees that were employed by the organization as of January 27, 2020, if those numbers have fallen below our staffing count at that time.

Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity threats are increasing daily. Response to such incidents involves prevention, detection, and mitigation. Funding for this will include cybersecurity training (including prevention, and cybersecurity workforce development initiatives).

Mental Health Crisis

Expand service availability for mental health crisis patients. Law enforcement has limited options to address citizens who are in a mental health crisis. Those experiencing a crisis are sometimes taken to a jail or an emergency room and their situation is left unresolved. Funding will assist with determining mental health drop off sites by police officers, medications and food costs for patients who have experienced mental health episodes, and training for police officer encounters with those experiencing a mental health crisis.



- **City of York Permits Equipment, Training, Vehicle: \$80,000**
Expense Category: EC3; EC4

ACTION:

**Permits Equipment, Personnel, & Vehicles ([Bill No. 60, Ordinance No. 57](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved November 15, 2022**

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Permits and Inspections by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, to fund an electronic plan review table; two inspectors to conduct building code and health sanitation inspections; and a vehicle to be used for inspections by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the total amount of \$301,000.00, with \$82,404.90 being needed for the remainder of FY2022.

- **City of York Permits (Equipment, Personnel): \$350,000**
Expense Category: EC3, EC4, EC6

ACTION:

**Permits Equipment, Personnel, & Vehicles ([Bill No. 60, Ordinance No. 57](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved November 15, 2022**

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Permits and Inspections by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, to fund an electronic plan review table; two inspectors to conduct building code and health sanitation inspections; and a vehicle to be used for inspections by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the total amount of \$301,000.00, with \$82,404.90 being needed for the remainder of FY2022.

- **Auditor (Controller): \$100,000**
Expense Category: EC4, EC7
- **Auditor (Brown Schultz Sheridan & Fritz - BSSF)**

ACTION:

**Auditing Services for ARPA Funding ([Bill No. 50, Ordinance No. 50](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved September 21, 2021**

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$35,000.00 to fund auditing services for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

- **Local Sourcing Initiative and Telestaff: \$125,000**
Expense Category: EC2

ACTION:

**ARPA Miscellaneous Expenses ([Bill No. 26, Ordinance No. 25](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved April 19, 2022**

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00;



(2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative (Click [here](#) to view contract) by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00.

Revenue Replacement: \$10,000,000

Expense Category: EC6 (To include all, but not limited to, the following recommendation)

- \$500,000..... Two (2) Fiscal Employees for Finance
- \$125,000Welcome Center
- \$100,000..... Preparation of Standard Operating Procedures for all offices
- \$150,000..... Leadership Training (All Staff)
- \$700,000..... Elimination of old/damaged Office Equipment/Furniture, Inventory of Office Equipment, Inventory of unused spaces, purchase and/or upgrade equipment
- \$500,000..... Match Fund: (To serve as perpetual area for our grants to provide partial and full matches)
- \$125,000..... Language Translator/Welcome Center Receptionist: (On call language translator to support City Hall and Welcome Center Receptionist)

- **Parks, Recreation, Youth Programs, Neighborhood Improvement Grants: \$1,500,000**
Expense Category: EC3; EC2

ACTION:

Parks - Bantz & Williams Parks Upgrades; Penn Park Solar Lights ([Bill No. 4, Ordinance No. 3](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Parks/Recreation to fund upgrades at Bantz and Williams Parks and the installation of solar lights at Penn Park by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$285,000.00.

ACTION:

Broad Street Greenway Project ([Resolution No. 56](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved May 3, 2022

Authorizing the submission of a proposal for funds in the amount of \$250,000 with the match provided from ARPA in the amount of \$37,5000 for the greenways, trails and recreation program grant provided through the PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

ACTION:

Chestnut Street Housing Project ([Bill No. 49, Ordinance No. 48](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved August 16, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Housing Services to fund additional



financing for the Habitat for Humanity Chestnut Street Housing Project by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$161,503.

ACTION:

Comprehensive Plan Completion – C.S. Davidson ([Bill No. 59, Ordinance No. 56](#)) ([Minutes](#))
Approved November 15, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Planning and Zoning to fund an agreement with CS Davidson for the completion of the City of York Comprehensive Plan by appropriating expenditures from American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$40,000.00.

- **Codorus Creek Improvement Project: \$3,500,000** ([Overview](#))

Expense Category: EC5

ACTION:

[Council Letter of Support](#) - of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of York’s (RACY) application for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant in the amount of \$15 million from the United States Department of Transportation to advance the Codorus Greenway Project

ACTION

Bascule Gate Dam ([Bill No. 56, Ordinance No. 53](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved November 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Public Works to fund the removal of the Bascule Gate Dam located on the Codorus Creek just north of Philadelphia Street as required by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$500,000.00.

Buchart-Horn CCIP Brief:

Codorus Creek runs through the City of York approximately 7.5 miles upstream of its confluence with the Susquehanna River. The 279-square-mile watershed has been continuously occupied since colonial days. Historic development of the downtown area included severe encroachment on the floodplain, with building right up to the creek banks.

Exacerbated by increases in runoff from the developing watershed, flooding in the downtown area became more severe over the years, until Indian Rock Dam and levees along both banks of the creek were constructed by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the 1940s. The projects mitigated the impact of many subsequent flood events, including Tropical Storm Agnes (June 1972), but the levees have had the unintended effect of separating the city from the creek, eliminating most public contact with its riverine environment.

As part of current efforts to revitalize the city, attention has turned to restoring access to the creek shoreline and enhancing its amenity value. As part of the beautification initiative, BH has provided survey, environmental analysis, master planning, public



outreach, and schematic design services to identify improvements and program opportunities, focusing on reconnecting urban plazas and neighborhoods with the creek. Services also included exploring alternatives for improvements and program opportunities, as well as determining where plaza(s) and connections can be made from neighborhoods.

The plan developed for enhancing the amenity value of the creek includes a compound cross section between the levees, with a low flow channel, landscaped overbanks and side slopes, and left and right bank retaining walls supporting linear park features, while maintaining adequate conveyance for flood events. To reconcile the partially conflicting uses of the channel for low- and high-frequency flows, BH carried out a comprehensive hydraulic modeling study to establish appropriate widths, stages, and design elevations for each element of the project. During the hydraulic study, BH worked with US Army Corps of Engineers and community stakeholders in preparation for construction permitting.

Source: [Buchart-Horn](#)

[York County Economic Alliance CCIP Brief:](#)

For over a century, people in York have looked at the Codorus Creek as a body of water abounding with opportunity. The YCEA's Codorus Creek Beautification Initiative moves these prior design and planning efforts forward by hydraulically modeling and re-envisioning the creek channel in the City of York and Spring Garden Township. Our concept includes improving public access along both sides of the creek, installing recreational amenities, and enhancing the ecological habitat of the creek through stormwater mitigation, urban flood control, and native plantings – all done without private land acquisition. These improvements will connect neighborhoods, people and services, and will reimagine the Codorus Creek as a true public space for all.

This project brings together partners from across the City of York and York County and will serve to better connect residents and visitors to our creek. The engineering effort by local partners Buchart-Horn and C.S. Davidson is integral to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' mission of flood control, ensuring the design enhances the ecological health of the Codorus Creek as well as maintains urban flood capacity as a primary service, bringing new life to our waterway.

Please explore YCEA's website to learn more about the project.

Source: [York County Economic Alliance](#)

- **Digital Divide: \$500,000**
Expense Category: EC3; EC4
- **Non-Profit, Small Business, Support: \$2,000,000**
Expense Category: EC2; EC3
(Use of eligible ARPA applications pending guidance and discussion)



- **Homeless Emergency Shelter Initiative: \$1,000,000**

Expense Category: EC2; EC3

Various public safety issues are related to homelessness. The City will look to support initiatives that provide emergency shelter and reduce/end homelessness. Programs that assist with training and transitional employment and permanent housing will be prioritized. (Use of eligible ARPA applications pending guidance and discussion)

ACTION:

Housing Eviction Counseling Program ([Bill No. 48, Ordinance No. 48](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Amendment to City of York 2021 Budget to show allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds for the approved appropriation in the amount of \$50,000.00 to fund the establishment of a Housing & Eviction Counseling program.

ACTION:

Housing Eviction Counseling Program – Establishment ([Bill N. 28, Ordinance No. 28](#))

([Minutes](#))

Approved August 17, 2021

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$50,000.00 to fund the establishment of a Housing & Eviction Counseling program.

- **Sylvia Newcombe Building Renovation: \$(3,000,000)** ([Capital Needs Assessment](#))

Expense Category: EC6

York’s Historic District is a national historic district located in the central business district and surrounding residential areas of York. The district includes over 300 contributing buildings including the Sylvia Newcombe Center which was built in 1892. The center is located at 301 E. Philadelphia St. This historic treasure is currently in a state of disrepair and in need of renovations. Renovations will focus on repairing, replacing, and upgrading the structure for use by the city and its residents for programs and services. (Note: Expenditures are pending based on whether personnel can find grants to support other initiatives mentioned for ARPA funding, as well as additional potential federal support.)

- **Purchase of New Street Sweepers: \$550,000**

Expense Category: EC1, EC2

Street sweeping is a road maintenance technique that is often combined with spraying and scrubbing to remove surface filth to leave streets clean, safe to drive on, and tidy. Street sweeping generally occurs between March through November of each year and happens on a regular schedule so that citizens know when they need to move vehicles.

Street sweeping is a vital operation that most take for granted or do not understand its importance. A clean surface will help prevent slip-and-falls, which can save the city thousands of dollars in legal fees. People take pride in a



clean area. Residents enjoy a clean neighborhood and patrons enjoy shopping at a clean downtown. A clean area provides a positive first impression. Also, street sweeping will pick up harmful substances that contaminate our environment. If these toxins are left on the streets, they will make their way into the storm drains and into our streams and waterways. In fact, street sweeping has been defined as a best management practice by the EPA in preventing storm water runoff.

The city is struggling to clean its streets due to ongoing maintenance issues with its fleet of aging street sweepers, leaving residents breathing in dirtier air while more toxic loads end up in city's stormwater system. The purchase of new street sweepers is paramount in keeping the city's streets clean especially during spring and summer months when heavy rain washes pollution into the stormwater system and hot conditions lead to poorer air quality.

- **Healthcare: \$200,000**

Expense Category: EC3; EC4

Public Health has been and will continue to be a primary focus on how to use the ARPA funds. Initiatives will include COVID testing and vaccinations, substance use services, mental health services, and additional public health staffing. These investments are being made to address the immediate needs facing the City of York and its residents during the COVID crisis. More details on the two largest allocations in this category are:

COVID Testing and Vaccinations

Funding services and programs to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including testing kits, additional mobile vaccination efforts, vaccine ambassador program, outreach and communication efforts, and vaccine incentive programs. Additionally, funding will also be used for continued COVID-19 testing.

ACTION:

Employee Vaccination Program ([Bill No. 51, Ordinance No. 51](#))
([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$40,000.00 to fund an Employee Vaccination Promotion Program.

Substance Use Services

Services to address substance use disorder exacerbated by the pandemic, including expenses related to direct treatment and outreach.

- **Real Estate Tax Reduction and Homeowner Relief Initiative: \$4,000,000**

Expense Category: EC1 and EC2

The [IFR](#) rule that would prohibit tax decreases is a restriction only on states. The



local government section of the bill contains no prohibition on lowering taxes. Lowering taxes would be a direct benefit to our residents especially those who struggled to make ends meet during the height of the pandemic.

Possible funding would be used to lower taxes which will benefit the lives of our most vulnerable residents. The costs associated with the needs of humans are constantly on the rise and it is high time to consider reducing taxes, even a small reduction will be much appreciated by our residents. The money saved can be spent on countless things, such as to buy a small automobile needed to transport their family and to get to and from work.

Business attraction programs round out our local economic development strategy by providing jobs and needed goods and services. If the city is to attract businesses that are lacking or desired in our community, we need to focus on an economic strategy that generates the interest of our residents. It is recommended that priority be given to small business property owners that have not received prior pandemic funding. The methodology is that reducing business taxes may spur business development opportunities and money will start flowing in.

Homeowner Relief will assist homeowners in preventing mortgage delinquencies, defaults, or foreclosures and loss of utility and home energy services. Priority being given to seniors and disabled homeowners. It is recommended that this initiative cover shortfalls for our residents and the Pennsylvania Homeowner Assistance Fund.

First Time Homebuyer Assistance: Preference given to long term renters. This program should be connected to the Blighted Property Initiative. Prioritize properties with long term renters.

Increased homeownership will increase the collection of taxes that allows the government to provide a number of services critical to our community. However, too high a tax rate can stifle growth. Stabilizing and lowering taxes in the right situation has its benefits.

- **Veteran Housing Support and Services: \$500,000**

Expense Category: EC2; EC3

To support homeless Veterans, home improvement projects for York City Veterans, and first time Veteran Homebuyers in York City.

- **Essential Employee Bonus: ~\$850,000**

Expense Category: EC4

Eligible workers will receive a bonus or retention incentive between \$500 and \$2,500 for their continued hard work during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The criterion for receiving the bonus is that the recipient had to come to work each day without an adjusted schedule or the option to telecommute. Pending



discussion and legalities, the retention incentive will be recommended based on the recommendations.

- **ARPA Grant Manager/Administrator and Mediation Services: \$250,000**
Expense Category: EC4

ACTION:

Request for qualifications posted on city's website for ARPA grant manager on 9/1/22. Click [here](#) to view press release. Click [here](#) to view RFQ.

ACTION:

Administration/Management/Auditing Services for ARPA Monies ([Bill No. 10, Ordinance No. 7](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Business Administration to fund other professional services costs for administration, management, and auditing services for the American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" monies by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" funds in the amount of \$170,000.00.

ACTION:

Auditing Services for ARPA Funding ([Bill No. 50, Ordinance No. 50](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$35,000.00 to fund auditing services for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

ACTION:

ARPA Project Manager

Position posted on City's website under "Employment." (Click [here](#) to view posting)

This position would manage various aspects of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding awarded to the City of York through effective investments and collaborations in support of City and community priorities and goals as the (ARPA) Grant Manager. This position will report directly to the city's Grants Administrator/Special Projects Analyst.

This ARPA grant-funded position is anticipated through at least December 31, 2024.

This is a professional position working independently and with an interdepartmental team to perform community engagement, planning, design, contract/grant administration, reporting, and other project management tasks. This position will also look for additional grants to supplement the ARPA funds. We are looking for a creative problem solver and energetic team member with excellent communication, facilitation, and organizational skills. Applicants must bring broad technical skills, extensive experience in grant and/or project management, and a strong passion for public service. The successful candidate may be eligible for an alternative work arrangement, including the possibility of working some of the scheduled hours remotely.



Sample Job Description

ARPA Grant Manager

Full salary range: \$56,000 - \$65,000/year. Typical work schedule: Monday - Friday; 9:00 - 5:00

The City of York has created an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Manager position to aid in management of Federal ARPA funds.

The ARPA Grant Manager is a professional leader that will provide strategic guidance and project management to allocate \$35.3 million in ARPA-funded programming within the city.

This is a professional position working independently and with an interdepartmental team to perform community engagement, planning, design, contract/grant administration, reporting, and other project management tasks. We are looking for a creative problem solver and energetic team member with excellent communication, facilitation, and organizational skills. Applicants must bring broad technical skills, extensive experience in grant and/or project management, and a strong passion for public service. The successful candidate may be eligible for an alternative work arrangement, including the possibility of working some of the scheduled hours remotely.

The ideal candidate is expected to have a strong background in grant management, program development, project management, organizational process improvement, and be able to lead program and project teams. Work is performed under general supervision and requires independent judgment while ensuring compliance with the American Rescue Plan Act and City policies and procedures.

This position will report directly to the city's Grants Administrator/Special Projects Analyst.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Develops and manages the City's ARPA programs and projects in compliance with all Federal ARPA program guidelines;
- Provides technical consultation and policy interpretation;
- Prepares ARPA budget reports and presents updates as required;
- Maintains knowledge of ARPA policies and guidelines to appropriately guide stakeholders;
- Participates in community engagements/outreach and leads cross-departmental conversations in the development of ARPA funded projects; prepares reports from community engagements including results of questionnaires and surveys;
- Provides strategic guidance on the implementation of ARPA projects and use of funds, and ensures appropriate spending;
- Coordinates development of project scope, function, and budget;
- Develops monitoring and evaluation tools to ensure the funds meet their intended objective;



- Prepare reports, and recommendations for multiple stakeholder groups;
- Attends City Council meetings as directed;
- Establishes and maintains effective working relationships with other departments, external agencies, and residents;
- Coordinates with the city's Grants Administrator/Special Projects Analyst on all ARPA projects.
- Coordinates with City Finance staff on ARPA spending compliance and reporting.
- Seeks additional grants to supplement the ARPA funds.

Minimum Qualifications:

Education, Training, and Experience:

- Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree, with course work emphasis in business administration, public administration, administrative services, or a related.
- Minimum of five (5) years of progressively knowledgeable and increasingly responsible professional administrative, grant management, program and project development, and implementation or similar relevant work experience may substitute for a portion of the required education.
- Strong technology skills.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Knowledge and level of competency commonly associated with completion of a degree program in business administration, public administration, finance, urban planning, or comparable field;
- Demonstrated strong work experience in program development and project management;
- Work experience that demonstrates strong problem-solving and analytical skills, as well as an understanding of public policy and the budget process and grants, generally five or more years, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities;
- Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain effective communication between stakeholders;
- Experience managing local, state, and federal grants;
- Ability to work independently with strong negotiating, problem-solving, analytical skills, and work under pressure of deadlines;
- Ability to organize complex financial data for preparation and delivery of presentations to various stakeholders, including elected officials and residents.

The City of York is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. We strive to be a diverse workforce that is representative of the residents we serve and the area in which we live. We are dedicated to creating an inclusive environment where employees of diverse backgrounds can thrive and make a positive impact on the services we provide.



- **Central Purchasing Agent and Support Tech Services: \$250,000**

Expense Category: EC4

To support [Article 136](#) “Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program,” and ProcureNow Software.

- **Public Health and Public Safety Employees: \$450,000**

Expense Category: EC4

- **City of York Grants Development and Special Project Analyst Support: \$250,000**

Expense Category: EC4

Remaining ARPA Funds

Over the next four years ARPA funds can be constantly updated through monthly reports to the U.S. Treasury. The City of York will be conducting an ongoing community engagement campaign, “**A Better York: Listening Campaign**” to hear input from residents. This campaign will allow continual input on how the City of York can best close the gaps in our recovery. Results of those recommendations will be updated and released to the public via the city’s website. (See Section V “Promoting Equitable Outcomes” for gap recovery initiatives identified through a previous survey.)

Additionally, if needed, it is recommended that a selected community partner be contracted to administer allocated funding specifically set aside for nonprofits. The contractor must receive detailed and specific guidance to ensure the execution of a transparent, effective, and efficient process. The contracted partner will receive detailed/specific criterion for administering nonprofit allocations (only). The ARPA Grant Manager, under the city’s Grants Administrator/Special Projects Analyst, will serve as liaison between the contractor and the city.

Department heads will be asked to compile specific projects, programs and/or services to be approved and then submitted to the ARPA Grant Manager for consideration of execution. Department heads should prioritize projects according to the level of importance, urgency, and/or risk of compromising other funding opportunities.

IV. Procurement

The City of York seeks to exercise a procurement process when expending ARPA funds to acquire goods or services from the private sector. These can be physical supplies like cleaning products or more abstract services like grant writing, or project evaluation and development. The process of procurement varies somewhat from state to state and locality to locality, but the foundation is common: the goal is to protect the taxpayer from nepotism, fraud, and waste by ensuring the public purchaser receives a fair price for the goods acquired.

With the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) infusing many resources into cities, towns, and villages to assist in the Country’s recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential that local



leaders re-familiarize themselves with their local procurement processes. By understanding the foundations of procurement, local leaders can be prepared to ask questions, investigate contracts, and understand tools they have at their disposal to ensure their taxpayers get a fair price for purchases and the dollars invested through ARPA to jumpstart our economy.

A Typical Procurement Cycle

While every government may have certain nuances to their particular purchasing system, there is a basic procurement cycle that most every government follows.

- **Step One: Identifying the need.** Successful procurement of a good or service relies on the organization having a clear understand of exactly what they are seeking to purchase. This is especially true in cases where services may be more abstract or intangible like consulting services, or programmatic services.
- **Step Two: Developing a Procurement Instrument.** Depending on state and local requirements, cities can then develop a scope and select a procurement instrument. In many cases this will be a **request for proposals (RFP)** or a request for qualifications (RFQ). For construction procurement, the Federal guidelines say that a request for competitive sealed bids is preferred. In some cases, the local government may decide to utilize an existing contract or join a co-operating purchasing agreement. However, these mechanisms become more complicated when using federal funds due to federal requirements for **competitive bidding** of all federal dollars.
- **Step Three: Soliciting Bids.** Vendor solicitation is a critical phase of the procurement process. There may be state or local requirements that mandate cities and towns to advertise bids in different ways – online vs print, a certain length of time, etc. Since vendors can only bid on solicitations that they know about, it is critical for cities to spend the necessary time and resources to spread the word about solicitations. Additionally, cities can achieve greater diversity among their contractors by advertising in a diverse range of publications and ensuring that the information is available in multiple languages. Fair advertisement is essential to a fair and ethical procurement process.
- **Step Four: Evaluating Vendors.** Depending on the type of instrument used, the evaluation process may differ. For example, when utilizing an RFQ, the evaluation team will be examining whether firms have the requisite skills and experience as outlined in the scope. In an RFP, evaluators will be examining both the qualifications of the firm and the quality of the goods or services that have been proposed.
- **Step Five: Entering into A Contract.** Once the city or town has selected a qualified vendor to provide a service, they begin a process of notification and negotiation with the chosen vendor. This process should be spelled out clearly in a written procurement policy, including what happens if vendors who were not chosen decide to challenge the process.
- **Step Six: Execution and Evaluation.** As the contract is executed, there will likely be changes or amendments that need to be made. At each step of this process, the implementing



department or official should engage with legal counsel, as well as city procurement staff. This is especially true when utilizing federal funds to execute a contract. Changes to the contract may be permissible depending on the size, scope and nature of the change. However, they may require pre-approval by a federal agency so it is essential to do homework before assuming that changes will not impact schedules or deadlines.

- **Step Seven: Project Close out and Documentation.** Once the project has been executed, it is important to ensure that all obligations have been met by the vendor. Additionally, staff should ensure that all elements of completion have been properly documented and those documents have been supplied to the proper agencies.

Special Considerations for Federal Funds

As local governments utilize federal funds, either through a grant provided by a federal agency or direct allocation through ARPA, it is essential that they fully understand the requirements for that particular funding stream. In most cases, the federal funds can be administered using existing local procurement procedures as long as those procedures conform to the regulations of the agency administering the funds.

Here are a few items to consider as we begin planning to implement programs that may utilize ARPA funds:

Develop a procurement strategy as quickly as possible.

For some larger expenditures, the federal government recommends planning well in advance when utilizing federal funds for procured services. As you develop a roadmap for how you will utilize ARPA funds, move quickly to meet with procurement and legal staff to make sure you understand the timeline for purchasing goods or securing vendors.

Spend some time thinking about what you really need, and make sure that's what ends up the in your Request for Proposals/Qualifications or other solicitation.

Every successful procurement effort relies on having a very clear picture of the good or services needed. This may be rather obvious if you are purchasing office supplies, but it may become more difficult if you are hiring a vendor for your after-school program, a consultant to help redesign your transit system, or a vendor to produce a new website for your city. Think about what the essential components of the service are and do not include items that you don't need since vendors will respond to all the requirements of the proposal. Unnecessary requirements will drive up the cost and cause some vendors to not bid if they don't meet all your specifications. One tactical way to avoid this is to shy away from copy and pasting previous RFPs. While it does save time and can provide a helpful road map, the scope should be clearly rewritten each time to keep from "adding on top" of previous scopes.

Thorough documentation will not only save time – it is essential to the process.

It can seem time consuming to document all meetings, discussions, and conversations – but it is essential to ensuring fairness in the process and, in most cases, compliance with federal procurement processes.



Be cautious when approached by vendors.

Local leaders may be approached by many consultants, business owners, and employee groups who want to supply the government with their services. It is important to approach these conversations cautiously. Many local governments and states have prohibitions against sharing any information that may give a particular business a leg up in the procurement process. The number of private sector entities seeking to leverage ARPA funds will surely increase, which could have a significant impact on the economy. However, it is incumbent on us and the staff in our city to ensure these vendors are qualified, trust-worthy providers of the service you require.

For more information on federal procurement, visit the [Office of Federal Procurement Policy's](#) website.

Source – [National League of Cities](#)

V. Promoting Equitable Outcomes

From the beginning of the pandemic, the City of York has prioritized equity in responding to the immediate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the long-term effects and recovery. The city has closely analyzed impacts, sought input from community surveys, and enlisted the help of a steering committee consisting of city leaders to review applications for ARPA funding assistance. Based on both the data analysis and community input, the following areas have been identified as focus areas for ARPA gap funding since they were the most impacted:

The survey included 22 questions and over 850 responses.

The Priorities in Order of Community Responses Are:

- **Public Safety (Fire & Police)**

For public safety, the City's overall goal is to strengthen our public safety (fire & police) through job training and equipment.

ACTION:

Fire – Firefighter Training (Elevation Response levels) ([Bill No. 49, Ordinance No. 49](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Amending the York City Budget for the year of 2021 by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the York City Fire Department in the total amount of \$261,493.00 for the elevation response levels of the Firefighters through training. Assistance for Firefighters Grant (AFG) Award - \$237,720.91. AFG requires 10% match which shall be paid from ARPA funding in the amount of \$23,772.09.

- **Healthy Communities and Neighborhoods**

For healthy communities and neighborhoods/healthcare, the overall goal is to strengthen the health and well-being of residents. This begins first and foremost with the City's



continued efforts to combat the pandemic but also addresses other public health crises that were pre-existing in the City of York and deeply exacerbated by the pandemic.

- **Economic Impact**

To address the economic impact, the plan is to expand access to capital for both homeownership and business ownership. The city is investing in the workforce of the future by focusing on the expansion of digital access and developing career training programs specifically geared towards employability.

- **Educational Disparities**

Educational disparities can result from children having untreated disabilities, being raised in less-advantaged homes and communities, and receiving lower-quality schooling. These disparities can extend over the life course, affecting adult employment outcomes, health, and well-being. The City's plan is to collaborate with the York City School District to craft and invest in policies that acknowledge and address the impact of economic, racial, and social forces on students and schools.

- **Healthcare**

Public Health has been and will continue to be a primary focus on how to use the ARPA funds. Initiatives will include COVID testing and vaccinations, substance use services, mental health services, and additional public health staffing. These investments are being made to address the immediate needs facing the City of York and its residents during the COVID crisis. More details on the two largest allocations in this category are:

COVID Testing and Vaccinations

Funding services and programs to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including additional mobile vaccination efforts, vaccine ambassador program, outreach and communication efforts, and vaccine incentive programs. Additionally, funding will also be used for continued COVID-19 testing.

ACTION:

Employee Vaccination Program ([Bill No. 51, Ordinance No. 51](#))
([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$40,000.00 to fund an Employee Vaccination Promotion Program.

Substance Use Services

Services to address substance use disorder exacerbated by the pandemic, including expenses related to direct treatment and outreach.

- **Broadband Infrastructure**

To fill in the gaps with broadband infrastructure, the city will look to partner with providers of fixed broadband service to support broadband infrastructure deployment to



areas lacking broadband and improve access to and the availability of broadband internet service for our unserved or underserved residents.

To ensure that our strategy to address these gaps is best informed by the needs of our residents, the city will design a comprehensive community engagement plan through our “**A Better York: Listening Campaign.**” The city will host at several public meetings on focus areas representative of our gaps and goals, including violence and trauma prevention, homelessness, mental health, small business support, home ownership, career training, and internet access. In addition to the listening sessions, the city will utilize digital tools including online surveys, collaborative discussions, public meetings, and ongoing feedback through the city’s website.

While these gap priorities were identified, the City remains steadfast in reaching as many residents as possible for input on how to best use these funds for the best interest of our community and its residents. As such, the city will implement its listening campaign in areas throughout the city keeping in mind differing levels of access to government resources and that some may face significant barriers in learning about potential relief programs due to:

- Language and Communications challenges, including persons who speak a language other than English
- Persons with a disability such as persons who identify as blind or have low vision
- Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing
- The Digital Divide and lack of access to the internet

Communicating with and hearing from our hardest hit residents has been central to our approach thus far and will continue to be a priority to ensure that our residents can easily access resources that they desperately need. Given all of these considerations, the city has designed a layered approach to overcoming the barriers outlined above. The city has provided translation and interpretation of information, and the mayor has held press conferences. Additionally, the city works with trusted community leaders and local media outlets to ensure key information is reaching far and wide. Lastly, for our community engagement campaign the city will create multilingual paper flyers and provide an option for call-in numbers to ensure an internet-enabled device is not required for participation.

Language and Communication Accessibility

Throughout the pandemic, language and communication accessibility was prioritized. With ARPA funding, the city intends on continuing to elevate the needs of our community whose primary language is other than English and residents that are unable to see or hear. Being able to communicate how the ARPA funds are being spent and how residents can access ARPA funding in real time is a goal that the City seeks to achieve and maintain.

Building on Existing Initiatives (Broadband)

Being able to access reliable broadband, especially during the pandemic, is a crucial



component of our recovery efforts. During the pandemic it became apparent that there would be heavy reliance on the internet and that broadband access and equipment would be a necessity. The city seeks to increase access for our most vulnerable populations, including senior citizens, as well as school-aged children. The city also recognizes that digital literacy is an important component of digital equity and seeks to ensure that resources are provided towards this.

VI. Community Engagement – “A Better York: Listening Campaign”

From the very beginning of the pandemic, the city has directly engaged with residents and stakeholders. These efforts allowed the city to move swiftly in identifying gaps in services, but we have more work to do.

The City of York is actively seeking diverse feedback from its residents and stakeholders through our “**A Better York: Listening Campaign.**” As part of this engagement process, there will be a series of public meetings on various focus areas including gap initiatives.

In addition to these community meetings, the city will utilize digital tools including capturing written feedback through online surveys.

To ensure that there is significant participation in the “**A Better York: Listening Campaign**” initiative, the city will work with local community leaders and media outlets to publicize events. Translation services will be made available to residents at community meetings, and documents and fliers will be made available in English and Spanish to ensure every voice can be heard.

Public feedback will be used to submit recommendations for a plan that will be presented to the Mayor and City Council. This information will be used to put forth a comprehensive plan for the remaining funds. That plan will be followed by a comment period with further community meetings. The final plan will be updated to incorporate feedback from the community that is gathered during the comment period.

VII. LABOR PRACTICES

As of February 1, 2022, the City of York has not yet allocated ARPA funds. On future projects and contracts, the City will ensure strict labor standards are used to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers. The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identification or non-job-related disability or the use of a guide or support animal because of the disability of any individual or independent contractor, in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Act of Oct. 27, 1955, P.L. 744, No. 222, the “[Pennsylvania Human Relations Act](#),” City of York Codified Ordinances, Section 185.05 “[Unlawful Discriminatory Practices in Employment](#),” and applicable State and Federal regulations.



VIII. USE OF EVIDENCE

- Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the city actively tracked cases of infection and created public health protection measures.
- Public surveys were conducted to receive public input on suggested uses for ARPA Federal funding.
- Community engagement was solicited through social media, local advertising, and press conferences.
- Information was provided to the public about ARPA on the city’s website and information posters. We will continue to acquire evidence through the active listening campaign.

IX. CONCLUSION

It is not City Council’s intention to be the administrator of ARPA funds, therefore, Council will leave implementation of these funds to the qualified professionals. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds are a once-in-a-generation injection of capital into all levels of government to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its economic impacts. City Council believes that the planning and framework outlined in these recommendations can best be executed and guided by, but not limited, to these **framework key players**:

1. City of York Residents:

- Including results from ARPA Public Survey
- Public Comment received at City Council Meetings
- Comprehensive Plan Survey Results
- Partnership with York City School District and Local Educational Agencies (Charter and Private)
- Partnership with For-Profit and Non-Profit Organizations to receive input from City of York Residents
- Input from the Business Community and Business Leaders
- To ensure that our strategy for use of funding is best informed by the needs of our residents, the city will design a comprehensive community engagement plan through our “**A Better York**” active listening campaign

2. Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD):

- As these funds are directly related to the impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on the economy, the City of York DECD will provide oversight of project execution and guidance to the temporary grant administrator and non-profit administrator.



3. City of York Grant Development and Special Project Analyst and Support Positions

- These position(s) will report to City of York Department of Business Administration and will have oversight of grant requirements, filing reports, ensuring payments are processed in a timely manner, and meeting federal deadlines and guidelines.

4. Grant Administrator (temporary)

- Liaison amongst all parties (Mayor, Council, Department Heads, Comprehensive Plan [City Planner], Non-Profit Grants Administrator, Grants Development and Special Projects Analyst, and subrecipients). Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to: administrative, managing and providing oversight of the life cycle of the grant processes, monitoring and tracking costs, collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, preparing/filing periodic required reports with the U.S. Treasury upon internal approvals, and creation of transparent reporting for the City Council and the community.

5. Non-Profit Grant Administrator

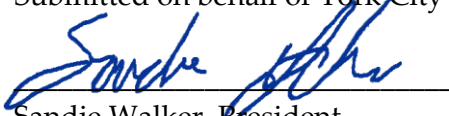
- Administrator of non-profit grants and will provide a transparent selection process, as determined by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

X. CLOSING

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding will help us to rebuild our community post-pandemic and we are so very excited about our future. ARPA funding will help families get back on their feet, repair infrastructure, improve public safety, support local businesses, and so much more – the possibilities are enormous. More importantly, this funding will allow us to provide targeted relief to those who have been hurt most by the pandemic - our residents and business owners - and will help us tackle longstanding government inefficiencies thereby ensuring that taxpayer money is spent efficiently and effectively. If we continue to plan wisely, as the city's economy recovers in the coming years, future shortfalls can be substantially smaller, if not eliminated, as we heal and bounce back from so many years of solid decline.

City Council looks forward to a fresh new start and working together toward a brighter future. We are extremely confident that we can boost recovery efforts through partnerships, efficient planning, and concrete decision making.

Submitted on behalf of York City Council By:



Sandie Walker, President
York City Council



ARPA EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

Comprehensive Plan Completion – C.S. Davidson ([Bill No. 59, Ordinance No. 56](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved November 15, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Planning and Zoning to fund an agreement with CS Davidson for the completion of the City of York Comprehensive Plan by appropriating expenditures from American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$40,000.00.

Permits Equipment, Personnel, & Vehicles ([Bill No. 60, Ordinance No. 57](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved November 15, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Permits and Inspections by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, to fund an electronic plan review table; two inspectors to conduct building code and health sanitation inspections; and a vehicle to be used for inspections by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the total amount of \$301,000.00, with \$82,404.90 being needed for the remainder of FY2022.

Demolition – Emergency (38 E. South St.) ([Bill No. 57, Ordinance No. 54](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved November 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Permits & Inspections to fund the unexpected additional cost to the emergency demolition of 38 East South Street in the amount of \$59,300.00.

Bascule Gate Dam ([Bill No. 56, Ordinance No. 53](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved November 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Public Works to fund the removal of the Bascule Gate Dam located on the Codorus Creek just north of Philadelphia Street as required by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$500,000.00.

Request for Qualifications for ARPA Grant Manager

September 1, 2022

Request for qualifications (RFQ) for ARPA grant manager posted on city’s website on 9/1/22. Click [here](#) to view press release. Click [here](#) to view RFQ.

Chestnut Street Housing Project ([Bill No. 49, Ordinance No. 48](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved August 16, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for the Bureau of Housing Services to fund additional financing for the Habitat for Humanity Chestnut Street Housing Project by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$161,503.

ARPA – Funding Acceptance – Second Tranche \$17,652,353.50 ([Resolution No. 90](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved August 16, 2022

Accepting American Rescue Plan Act Funds – Second Tranche in the amount of \$17,652,353.50.

Broad Street Greenway Project ([Resolution No. 56](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved May 3, 2022

Authorizing the submission of a proposal for funds in the amount of \$250,000 with the match provided from ARPA in the amount of \$37,5000 for the greenways, trails and recreation program grant provided through the PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).



ARPA Miscellaneous Expenses ([Bill No. 26, Ordinance No. 25](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved April 19, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) Business Administration to fund other professional service costs for additional support in identifying and applying for grant funding and to update equipment at the White Rose Community Television studio by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00; (2) Information Technology to fund an update of the audio/visual equipment in Council Chambers by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000.00; (3) Human Resources to fund an interface between the Kronos Telestaff scheduling program and the Kronos Workforce Central time/attendance program for efficient payroll processing for Police & Fire by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$35,000.00; (4) Economic & Community Development to fund several programs including a Business Start-up Subsidy Grant Program, a 3E Grant for Minority/Women Business Enterprises, and a Local Sourcing Initiative by appropriating expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$220,000.00.

Demolition – Emergency (38 E. S. St.) ([Bill No. 25, Ordinance No. 24](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved April 19, 2022

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the FY2022 York City Budget in the amount of \$77,000 in American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funding for demolition of the property located at 38 East South Street, City of York, County of York, PA, by A Plus Inc.

Associated Documents:

Approving agreement with A Plus Inc. ([Res. 48 of 2022](#))

ARPA Process ([Resolution No. 40](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 15, 2022

Adopting an American Rescue Plan Act of 2021” or “ARPA” process to appropriate ARPA funding to aid local recovery.

Rex/Laurel Fire Station Renovations ([Bill No. 11, Ordinance No. 10](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved on March 15, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) York City Fire Department to fund Rex/Laurel Fire Station Renovations by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00; (2) Community & Economic Development to fund Penn Street Market Renovations by appropriating revenue and expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00.

Associated Documents:

- Amending the FY2021 City Budget for the Fire Department by appropriating revenue and expenditure for architect/engineer/consultant services for the Rex/Laurel Fire Station renovation in the amount of \$35,251.92. ([Bill No. 20, Ordinance 19](#)) Approved April 5, 2022.
- Amending the York City Budget for the year 2021 by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the Department of Fire/Rescue in the amount of \$70,000.00 to be used for Architectural/ Engineering / Consultant Fees for the RexLaurel Fire Station Renovations. ([Bill No. 35, Ordinance No. 35](#)) ([Minutes](#)) Approved September 21, 2021.
- Business Administrator Memo ([Read](#))



Penn Street Market Renovations ([Bill No. 11, Ordinance No. 10](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved on March 15, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget as follows: (1) York City Fire Department to fund Rex/Laurel Fire Station Renovations by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00; (2) Community & Economic Development to fund Penn Street Market Renovations by appropriating revenue and expenditures from ARPA funds, in the amount of \$750,000.00.

Administration/Management/Auditing Services for ARPA Monies ([Bill No. 10, Ordinance No. 7](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Business Administration to fund other professional services costs for administration, management, and auditing services for the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” monies by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$170,000.00.

Police – Cadet Program/GVI/York Initiative/TelePolicing/Victim Program ([Bill No. 9, Ordinance 6](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for York City Police Department to fund a Police Cadet Program, GVI/Credible Messengers, a second GVI Street Team, the Shotspotter/Trauma Informed Care Program, Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) Program, Building Rehab/Reprogram York Initiative, Tele-Policing Program, and a Victim Notification/Follow-Up/Officer Satisfaction Program by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$2,335,641.83. (Funding for Shotspotter & Drone removed)

Parks - Bantz & Williams Parks Upgrades; Penn Park Solar Lights ([Bill No. 4, Ordinance No. 3](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved March 1, 2022

Amending the FY2022 City Budget for Parks/Recreation to fund upgrades at Bantz and Williams Parks and the installation of solar lights at Penn Park by appropriating expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” funds in the amount of \$285,000.00.

2022 Budget – ARPA ([Bill No. 60, Ordinance No. 60](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved December 21, 2021

Approving the 2022 York City Budget inclusive of ARPA funding.

Associated documents:

- Veto Override. ([Resolution 145 of 2021](#)) Approved December 30, 2021 ([Minutes](#))

Employee Vaccination Program ([Bill No. 51, Ordinance No. 51](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$40,000.00 to fund an Employee Vaccination Promotion Program.

Auditing Services for ARPA Funding ([Bill No. 50, Ordinance No. 50](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$35,000.00 to fund auditing services for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. (Brown Schultz Sheridan & Fritz - BSSF)



Fire – Firefighter Training (Elevation Response levels) ([Bill No. 49, Ordinance No. 49](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Amending the York City Budget for the year of 2021 by appropriating revenue and expenditures for the York City Fire Department in the total amount of \$261,493.00 for the elevation response levels of the Firefighters through training. Assistance for Firefighters Grant (AFG) Award - \$237,720.91. AFG requires 10% match which shall be paid from ARPA funding in the amount of \$23,772.09.

Housing Eviction Counseling Program ([Bill No. 48, Ordinance No. 48](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Amendment to City of York 2021 Budget to show allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds for the approved appropriation in the amount of \$50,000.00 to fund the establishment of a Housing & Eviction Counseling program.

Housing Eviction Counseling Program – Establishment ([Bill N. 28, Ordinance No. 28](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved August 17, 2021

Making an appropriation for money not otherwise appropriated in the amount of \$50,000.00 to fund the establishment of a Housing & Eviction Counseling program.

ARPA Funding Acceptance - First Tranche \$17,652,353.50 ([Bill No. 47, Ordinance No. 47](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved September 21, 2021

Amendment to City of York 2021 Budget to show revenue for the accepted American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$17,652,353.50

ARPA – Accepting Funds in the amount of \$17,652,353.50 ([Resolution 88 of 2021](#)) ([Minutes](#))

Approved August 17, 2021

Accepting American Rescue Plan Act Funds (\$17,652,353.50)

