

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: August 1, 2021

To: Milwaukee County ARPA Task Force

From: ARPA Task Force Co-Chairs Ricardo Diaz and Shawn Rolland

Subject: ARPA monies allowable use criteria

File Type: Informational Report

---

**REQUEST**

Defining the allowable uses of the Milwaukee County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies.

**POLICY**

Milwaukee County Board file 21-555: “A resolution to create a Task Force to review and recommend funding allocations to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors for monies received by the County in the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021”

**BACKGROUND**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury’s [Interim Financial Rule](#), released on May 10, 2021, details the allowable uses of the ARPA fund:

**Support Public Health Response** – Services and programs to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, address behavioral healthcare needs exacerbated by the pandemic, and cover payroll and covered benefits expenses for employees working on COVID-19 response are eligible.

**Address Negative Economic Impacts** – Programs to assist families (i.e. job training, aid to households facing food, housing, or other financial insecurity, etc.), support small business, speed recovery of impacted sectors (i.e. tourism), and rebuilding public sector capacity are eligible.

**Serving the Hardest-Hit Communities and Families** – Investments to address health disparities and social determinants of health (i.e. Provide funding for community health workers, public benefits navigators, lead remediation, and community violence intervention programs), investing in housing and neighborhoods, addressing educational disparities, and healthy childhood environments (i.e. expanding high quality child care, home visiting programs, enhanced services for child welfare, etc.) are eligible.

**Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss** – Counties may use funds to replace lost

revenue and avoid cuts to government services. Recipients have broad latitude to use this funding to support government services, up to this amount of lost revenue.

**Provide Premium Pay for Essential Workers** – Counties may use funds to provide premium pay to essential workers who must be physically present at jobs.

**Invest in Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure** – Investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet are eligible.

**Ineligible uses** include deposits to a pension fund, funding debt service, legal settlements or judgments, deposits to rainy day funds or financial reserves.

### **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the [strategic plan](#):

- 1A: Reflect the full diversity of the County at every level of County government
- 1B: Create and nurture an inclusive culture across County government
- 1C: Increase the number of County contracts awarded to minority and women-owned businesses
- 2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity
- 2B: Break down silos across County government to maximize access to and quality of services offered
- 2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions
- 3A: Invest “upstream” to address root causes of health disparities
- 3B: Enhance the County’s fiscal health and sustainability
- 3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

### **FISCAL EFFECT**

N/A

### **TERMS**

The term of the ARPA Task Force began on July 13, 2021. The Task Force will endure until all of the ARPA monies are fully allocated.

### **VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

NA

### **PREPARED BY:**

ARPA Task Force Co-Chairs Ricardo Diaz and Shawn Rolland

### **APPROVED BY:**

NA

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Links to files [21-515](#), [21-332](#), [21-555](#).

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk

SAMPLE