#### **COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

Inter-Office Communication

**Date:** January 13, 2022

**To:** Milwaukee County ARPA Task Force

From: Bess Earl, Senior Grant Analyst

**Subject:** Update on Planning for Service Area Subgroups

File Type: Informational Report

# **REQUEST**

This report is intended to provide an update on the Milwaukee County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project pipeline and expenditure category allocations approved during the Milwaukee County ARPA Task Force Meeting on September 2, 2021.

### **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**

On September 2, 2021, the ARPA Task Force approved ARPA Expenditure Categories and a process for reviewing and recommending ARPA funding allocations. Since that time ARPA funding request have been submitted based on the Milwaukee County ARPA Expenditure Categories (COVID-19 Mitigation, Community Support, Revenue Loss Recovery and Fund Administration). This report serves to provide updates on projects approved for ARPA funding by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (Table A), ARPA Funding Allocated and Available as of January 13, 2022 (Diagram A), Milwaukee County ARPA Project Pipeline (Table B), and Community Feedback submitted as of January 31, 2022 (Table C).

On January 6, 2022 the United States Department of the Treasury released the Final Rule for the State and Local Recovery Fund, which was authorized under ARPA. Information is provided below.

Table A: Projects Approved for ARPA Funding by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Project Name	Project Budget Expenditure Category			
Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool	\$1,500,000	Community Support		
Pilot Right to Counsel Program	\$2,749,729	Community Support		
Capital Program Management Office	\$500,000	Revenue Loss Recovery		
Premium Pay for Correction Officer Staff	\$4,039,955	55 Revenue Loss Recovery		
Emergency COVID-19 Mitigation Response	\$2,500,000	COVID-19 Mitigation		
Senior Grant Analyst	\$86,844	Fund Administration		
Total Amount Allocated:	\$11,376,528			

\$86,844 **Fund Administration** \$7,347,848 \$4,539,955 Revenue Loss Recovery \$115,728,599 \$2,500,000 COVID-19 Mitigation \$23,880,505 \$4,249,729 **Community Support** \$36,739,238 \$100,000,000 \$150,000,000 \$0 \$50,000,000 ■ Allocated ■ Available

Diagram A: Milwaukee County ARPA Funds Allocated and Available

Milwaukee County is soliciting project ideas and community priorities through the Milwaukee County ARPA Landing Page for the Community Support expenditure category. The Revenue Loss Recovery group has also issued a Fiscal Health Project Challenge to garner project ideas.

**Table B: Milwaukee County ARPA Project\* Pipeline by Expenditure Category** 

Project Status	COVID-19		Community Support		Revenue Loss Recovery		Fund Administration	
	# of	Amount	# of	Amount	# of	Amount	# of	Amount
	Projects	Requested	Projects	Requested	Projects	Requested	Projects	Requested
Pending Review by Subgroup	-	-	11	\$32.3M	26	\$219.8M	-	-
Reviewed & Denied	-	-	1	\$99,000	-	-	-	-
Reviewed & on Hold	-	-	7	\$16.3M	-	-	-	-
Reviewed & Invited for Full Proposal	-	-	5	\$6.6M	-	-	-	-
Pending ARPA Task Force Approval	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pending Finance Committee Approval	-	-	-	-	2	\$32.8M	-	-
Approved by full Board	1	\$2.5M	2	\$8.8M	2	\$4.5M	1	\$86,844

<sup>\*</sup> The numbers in this table represent unduplicated projects.

The Project Management Office reviewed all project ideas submitted for consideration to ensure ARPA eligibility. Five projects totaling \$9,957,469 were submitted to the ARPA Community Support consideration but did not meet ARPA eligibility.

The following table demonstrative the community priorities submitted through the Milwaukee County public webpage.

Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs Economic Impacts: Unemployment Benefits or... Public Health: Substance Use Services Social Determinants of Health: Community... Economic Impacts: Small Business Economic... Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting... Infrastructure: Broadband Projects Economic Impacts: Aid to Nonprofit Organizations Household Assistance: Food Programs Infrastructure: Clean Water Projects Infrastructure: Drinking Water Projects Social Determinants of Health: Community... Economic Impacts: Job Training Assistance (e.g.,... Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, Utility... Housing Support: Affordable Housing and... Public Health: Mental Health Services 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35

Table C: Milwaukee County ARPA Community Engagement Feedback

# **U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule**

On January 6, 2022, the United States Department of the Treasury released the Final Rule for the State and Local Recovery Fund, which was authorized under ARPA. The Project Management Office is conducting a review of the Final Rule and has provided key updates.

- 1.) Final Rule takes effect on April 1, 2022. Until that time, the interim final rule remains in effect; funds used consistently with the IFR while it is in effect are in compliance with the SLFRF program. However, recipients can choose to take advantage of the final rule's flexibilities and simplifications now, even ahead of the effective date.
- 2.) Recipients can use SLFRF Funds on government services up to the revenue loss amount, whether that be the standard allowance amount or the revenue loss formula. Government services generally include any service traditionally provided by a government unless Treasury has stated

- otherwise. Government services is the most flexible eligible use category under the SLFRF program, and funds are subject to streamlined reporting and compliance requirements.
- 3.) Presumes certain populations were "impacted" and "disproportionately impacted" by the pandemic and therefore are eligible to receive a broad range of services and support. Treasury presumes the following households and communities are impacted by the pandemic:
  - Low-or-moderate income households or communities
  - Households that experienced unemployment
  - Households that experienced increased food or housing security
  - Households that qualify for National House Trust Fund (For affordable housing programs)
  - Households residing in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs)
  - Households that qualify for certain federal benefits
  - Any student that lost access to in-person education (Services to address lost instruction time in K-12)
- 4.) Key new features in the Final Rule for Public Health & Negative Economic Impacts
  - Aid to Impacted Industries
    - Clarifies how to designate an impacted industry
    - Clarifies eligible uses to impacted industries
  - Public Sector Capacity
    - o Allows re-hiring of county staff to pre-pandemic levels, or
    - o Adjusted level up to 7.5% above pre-pandemic baseline
    - o Support for staff retention, avoiding layoffs and funds for furloughed workers
  - Capital Expenditures
    - o Eligible projects must respond to pandemic and proportional to impact
    - o Required written justification for certain projects.

# **RECOMMENDATION**

This is an informational item.

### **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**

N/A

#### **PREPARED BY:**

Bess Earl, Senior Grant Analyst

### **APPROVED BY:**

N/A

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A