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5 **A RESOLUTION**  
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7 to create a Task Force to review and recommend funding allocations to the Milwaukee  
8 County Board of Supervisors for monies received by the County in the Federal  
9 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021  
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11  
12 WHEREAS, at the March 18, 2021 meeting of the Committee on Finance, an  
13 informational report was presented regarding the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021  
14 (“ARPA”) and its impacts on Milwaukee County (File No. 21-332); and  
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16 WHEREAS, ARPA provides aid to individuals, businesses, and state and local  
17 governments in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County is expected to receive an allocation of  
20 \$183,696,189 to be spent prior to December 31, 2024; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County’s municipalities will be receiving their own  
23 allocation of funding from the American Rescue Act of 2021, including the City of  
24 Milwaukee, which is receiving more than \$394 million; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County received half of its allocation, \$91,848,094.50, on  
27 May 21, 2021 and the remaining 50 percent is expected twelve months after that; and  
28

29 WHEREAS, the legislation dictates that the funding must be spent:  
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- 31
- 32 • To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic  
33 impacts
  - 34 • To respond to workers performing essential work during COVID-19  
35 through the provision of premium pandemic pay or grants to workers
  - 36 • For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction of  
37 revenue due to COVID-19, including lost revenues from the previous  
38 calendar year (2020)
  - 39 • To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband  
40 infrastructure

41 ; and

42 WHEREAS, the Department of Administrative Services has proposed allocating  
43 funding from the legislation to the following categories: COVID-19 purchases, COVID-  
44 19 related revenue losses, community and economic support programs, vaccine  
45 distribution and COVID-19 testing, IT/remote work investments, and, potentially, capital  
46 improvements; and

47 WHEREAS, the legislation will provide further funding beyond the \$183,696,189  
48 already anticipated, in a currently unknown amount, to target spending on transit  
49 assistance grants, housing programs, airport relief, aging services, mental health  
50 services, and potential other provisions; and

51

52 WHEREAS, previous legislation related to COVID-19 relief required that  
53 Milwaukee County spend its allocation in a short timeframe, greatly expediting the  
54 process by which allocation decisions were made; and

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56 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County can be deliberative and purposeful in disbursing  
57 its allocation of ARPA monies to ensure that funding is efficient and effective; and

58

59 WHEREAS, the extended timeframe for spending the funds allows Milwaukee  
60 County to consider projects and investments that advances its mission towards  
61 becoming the healthiest county in Wisconsin by achieving racial equity; and

62

63 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disparate impact on people of  
64 color, including relief efforts and vaccine distribution, which Milwaukee County can help  
65 rectify through an equitable distribution of its federal funding; and

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67 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County can also use the planning process to collaborate  
68 with municipalities and local partners to target programs and individuals who are in the  
69 greatest need; and

70

71 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted File No. 21-  
72 332 on March 25, 2021, which expressed the desire to have a more thorough review of  
73 the ARPA funding recommendations as the funds do not have to be spent as quickly as the  
74 COVID-19 relief monies granted to the county last year; and

75

76 WHEREAS, the creation of an ARPA Task Force to review potential funding  
77 allocations, seek input from the broader community, and make non-binding  
78 recommendations to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors will help ensure a  
79 process that engages the wider community; and

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81 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors has the legal authority  
82 to approve and distribute funds and represents a diverse and broad population of  
83 citizens; and

84

85 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of June 17, 2021,  
86 recommended adoption of File No. 21-555 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

87

88 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby  
89 establishes the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Task Force to review  
90 funding recommendations for the use of the ARPA monies and to utilize a process that  
91 engages broad and diverse input from the community to develop non-binding

92 recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors that helps to achieve the  
93 County's vision: "By achieving racial equity, Milwaukee is the healthiest county in  
94 Wisconsin;" and

95 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ARPA Task Force shall be comprised of six  
96 members or their designees, including:

97

- 98 • County Board Chairperson
- 99 • County Executive
- 100 • Chairperson, Committee on Finance
- 101 • Director, Department of Administrative Services
- 102 • Comptroller
- 103 • Director, Office of African American Affairs

104

105 ; and

106

107 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ARPA Task Force shall be co-chaired by  
108 the County Board Chairperson and County Executive or their designees, and shall be  
109 provided staff support by the Offices of Corporation Counsel, County Clerk, Comptroller,  
110 and other departmental support that may be necessary; and

111

112 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ARPA Task Force shall develop a process  
113 that includes soliciting public input from the broader community, especially  
114 underrepresented groups, and from representatives of the major functional areas of the  
115 county, including: Legislative and Executive, General, Administrative, Courts and  
116 Judiciary, Public Safety, Transportation, Health and Human Services, and Recreation  
117 and Culture; and

118 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ARPA Task Force shall provide periodic  
119 update reports and/or recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors and shall  
120 remain in existence until the ARPA monies are fully allocated.

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123 06/17/2021

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