

**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 Task Force duties  
File Type: Informational Report

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**REQUEST**

Defining the role and responsibilities of the Milwaukee County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Task Force.

**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 July 13, 2021, County Executive David Crowley signed file 21-555, a resolution sponsored by Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson, creating the Milwaukee County ARPA Task Force.

The resolution calls on the Task Force to complete two overarching tasks:

- 1) "Utilize a process that engages broad and diverse input from the community... especially from underrepresented neighborhoods, and from representatives of the major functional areas of the county, including: Legislative and Executive, General, Administrative, Courts and Judiciary, Public Safety, Transportation, Health and Human Services, and Recreation and Culture."
- 2) "Review funding recommendations... and develop non-binding recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors that help to achieve the County's vision: "By achieving racial equity, Milwaukee is the healthiest county in Wisconsin."

While the resolution clearly indicates the intended outcomes, it does not specifically delineate how the Task Force should engage the public nor the process the Task Force should develop to analyze the ideas or allocate the monies. These will need to be clearly defined by the Task Force as part of its ongoing work.

Further, the ARPA Task Force "shall provide periodic update reports and/or

recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors and shall remain in existence until the ARPA monies are fully allocated. Recovery funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024. Recovery funds must be spent, and the related work must be completed by December 31, 2026.

On May 15, 2021, Milwaukee County received its first ARPA payment in the amount of \$91,848,094.50. In May 2022, the County will receive its second payment of \$91,848,094.50.

On July 19, 2021, County Executive David Crowley signed County Board file 21-506, a resolution declaring a "right to counsel" for residents of Milwaukee County facing eviction or foreclosure, authorizing the Department of Health and Human Services, Housing Division to implement a pilot Right to Counsel program, and authorizing an appropriation transfer in the amount of \$916,576 from the County's ARPA allocation to fund cost of the program for the remainder of 2021, and an appropriation transfer in the amount of \$1,833,153 from the County's ARPA allocation to fund cost of the program for the remainder of 2022 (for a total allocation of \$2,749,729).

#### **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 21-555](#), [21-515](#), [21-232](#), [21-506](#), [21-422](#)

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

SAMPLE