



Department of Administration
Budget and Management Division

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March 20, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: American Rescue Plan Act Funding Allocation Task Force, Alderwoman Milele Coggs, Chair

From: American Rescue Plan Act Director Andrea Fowler

Subject: Report of Public Testimony Regarding Expenditure of Remaining ARPA Funding

The American Rescue Plan Act Funding Allocation Task Force invited community members to provide testimony on how the City's remaining ARPA funding should be spent at three meetings in February, 2023. Two meetings were in-person, one meeting was virtual. The second in-person meeting and the virtual meeting were offered as bilingual events. All three meetings were well attended. The following is a summary of the testimony provided and the needs that individuals wished to be funded:

- The Coalition on Lead Emergency (C.O.L.E.) sought a \$5 million "seed investment" for the establishment of a Lead-Free and Healthy Homes Fund.
- The M.E.R.A. Response Team requested the ARPA Task Force match the City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention's \$300,000 funding allocation.
- Funding to address effects of climate change on the City and its residents
- Feed Milwaukee Coalition requested \$100,000 to address food insecurity
- Financial support for the "Beautiful Imperfection" k-12 education curriculum
- Robust accountability and oversight of the organizations funded through ARPA
- Combating gentrification of Milwaukee's neighborhoods
- Requests for participatory budgeting
- Support for youth programming
- Mental health training for youth instructors
- Jobs training for youth
- Collaborative policing
- Additional support for the Office of Violence Prevention
- Additional policing
- Additional speed humps
- Assistance to the Miller Park Corridor
- Services to undocumented residents
- Bike lanes
- Housing support
- Mental health support
- Libraries
- Parks



- Fund the reconstruction of National Avenue
- Support for the City's ECO office
- Assistance with older properties – updating electrical, legal aid action fund for tenants (vs. attorneys)
- Mighty Small Moments
- Free bus passes
- Healthy food boxes
- Community lighting
- Alternative community policing strategies
- Hot spots
- Small diverse business support (request for \$2.5 million)
- Minimum wage increase
- Using abandoned spaces to create healthy living centers (smoking cessation, parenting skills, conflict resolution, assistance with alcoholism, stress and depression management)
- Affordable dental clinics and health clinics

Additionally we have received proposals, or requests for how to submit a proposal, from:

- C.O.L.E. (\$5 million request for Healthy Homes seed fund)
- A.A.R.P. (focus on pedestrian safety, public transportation, and housing)
- MacCannon Brown Homeless Sanctuary
- League of Women Voters
- Feeding America – Eastern Wisconsin
- Mr. Odell Ball, round-about and speed-hump construction
- ComForce for non-police community first responders

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