



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

ARPA FUNDING ALLOCATION TASK FORCE

Ald. Milele Coggs, CHAIR

Molly King, Luke Knapp, Ald. Jocasta Zamarripa, Ald. Mark Chambers, Aycha Sawa, Nik Kovac, Bernadette Karanja, Steven Mahan, Cecilia Gilbert, and Stephanie Mercado

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Andrea Fowler, ARPA Director, 414-286-3556,
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Monday, February 6, 2023

1:00 PM

Room 303, Third Floor, City Hall

This is also a virtual meeting conducted via GoToMeeting. Should you wish to join this meeting from your phone, tablet, or computer you may go to <https://meet.goto.com/124152269>. You can also dial in using your phone United States: +1 (224) 501-3412 and Access Code: 124-152-269.

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

2. Roll call.

Present 8 - Coggs, Sawa, Knapp, Karanja, Zamarripa, Mercado, Kovac and Chambers Jr.
Absent 1 - Gilbert
Excused 2 - Mahan and King

Also present:

*Andrea Fowler, Budget ARPA Director
Tea Norfolk, LRB Fiscal Planning Specialist
Patricia Ruiz-Cantu, DOA Community Outreach Manager
Tina Klose, DOA Creative Design and Brand Specialist
Ald. Scott Spiker, 13th Ald. Dist.*

3. Review and approval of the previous meeting minutes from January 12, 2023.

The meeting minutes from January 12, 2023 were approved without objection.

4. Update on task force membership.

Member Karanja was welcomed as a new task force member serving the role of Chief Equity Officer from the Office of Equity and Inclusion. She replaced Sharon Robinson (retired), who was serving an interim role.

Ms. Norfolk said that no new legislation was necessary as existing legislation allowed for this change to occur.

5. Review, update, discussion, or motion(s) on the task force reporting deadline(s).

Members and participants discussed extending the task force recommendations deadlines. Current deadlines to introduce a file for recommendations was February 28, 2023 and to present to the Finance and Personnel Committee was March 15, 2023. Factors to consider in an extension would include upcoming presentations of department anticipated cuts before Steering and Rules Committee (have not occurred), task force public input sessions (still being conducted), possible desire to hold additional task force public input meetings, public input compilation and analysis (ongoing and pending), proposal criteria development (not completed), and RFP issuance and review process (has yet to occur). More time would be needed to conduct all of the aforementioned tasks and to allow for the tasks to sufficiently take place.

Member Chambers, Jr. motioned for the task force to conduct two additional public input meetings (far north and south sides) to capture a wider variety of input and to reach more people. The two additional public input meetings would be coordinated in the same manner as the first three via the Public Engagement and Information Dissemination Work Group. The two additional sessions may impact task force determination on any extension.

Member Fowler said she would not be available in March.

Member Kovac commented. 2024 budget directions would be sent to departments in March, department proposed budget submissions would be due in May, and the Mayor would submit a proposed budget in September. The Steering and Rules Committee meetings would pertain only to anticipated department cuts and deductions and would not be a preview of departments' budget necessarily. The task force would have to decide whether to get ahead of or to coincide with the 2024 budget process.

Members and participants further discussed the urgency to produce recommendations in a timely fashion, the reality of needing more time, that there was a need for more diverse public input since the same organized groups may be showing up to the public meetings, that there were additional options for public input (survey, alderpersons, etc.), and that there was need to engage other aldermanic districts to solicit for public input.

The majority of members and participants were in favor of extending the task force deadlines for two additional Common Council cycles, making a determination to hold additional public meetings only after the current three have been completed, coordinating additional public meetings immediately if those meetings were deemed necessary, and incorporating additional public meetings (if needed) into the new 2 cycle extension.

Members said to consider the task force deadline extension first and hold consideration of additional public meetings until later in the meeting after work group have given their updates.

Member Chambers, Jr. withdrew his motion.

There was unanimous consent to extend the task force deadlines for two additional Common Council cycles.

6. Review, update, discussion, or motion(s) on reallocation of ARPA funds.

A. CCFN 221210, Resolution relating to the reallocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to the High Impact Paving Program.

This item was held and not discussed at the request of the sponsor, Ald. Scott Spiker.

B. Other

There was no other discussion.

7. Review, update, discussion, or motion(s) on task force public input meetings.

A. Riverworks, 526 E. Concordia Ave., February 4, 2023 at 10 am

Members and participants discussed that the first public input meeting on February 4th was well attended, the sign-in should collectively capture all attendees instead of just speakers, holistic sign-in information would improve outreach efforts for the future, public testimony from the meeting was not limited in duration, public testimony should be limited in duration for the future and not be duplicative to better help the meetings move along, the majority of public testimony was on lead remediation and investment from the Coalition on Lead Emergency (COLE), the ARPA overview presenting should include more information on 1st tranche allocations (especially on lead and childcare) to make the public aware of the investments being made already, and that Milwaukee Health Department (Tyler Weber) should be present at future public input meetings to help speak on the lead issue.

Ms. Fowler and member Kovac commented on the first meeting public testimony. Public input testimony categories included lead remediation, food insecurity, transportation, mental health intervention, and energy efficiency. COLE was distinctly asking for \$5 million to start a seed fund for the Healthy Homes Program. \$31 million from the 1st tranche was for intervention strategy towards getting at children at a lower threshold of lead poisoning. They would work to add slides on further information on 1st tranche allocations and investments.

Members Zamarripa said that there was also public testimony calling for accountability from the City and those community organizations that were awarded ARPA funds. There was talk to have those organizations report to the Steering and Rules Committee but that has not occurred. The task force should also consider accountability from these organizations. She also commended staff for coordinating the public meetings.

Ms. Fowler said that accountability from all of our outside organizations was required in

the form of quarterly reports, those organizations were required to provide very detailed records of their expenditures and performance indicators, their office had some information on the exact locations and demographics, and they would post that information publicly to their website.

B. Mitchell St. Library, 906 W. Historic Mitchell St., February 11, 2023 at 10 am

Members and participants discussed the upcoming second public meeting on February 11th. President Jose Perez would attend. Member Karanja would help to promote it. Ald. Coggs and Zamarripa would talk to other alders to help promote it. The meeting would take place in the basement of the library.

C. Zoom (virtual), February 22, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

There was no discussion.

8. Review, update, discussion, or motion(s) relating to work groups and their activities.

A. Public Engagement and Information Dissemination Work Group

This item was not discussed.

B. Proposal Collection, Review Funding and Criteria Work Group

Member Sawa said that Bill Christianson had developed and circulated to work group members drafts of an ARPA Task Force- Project Request Template, Instructions for ARPA Project Request, and Evaluation Criteria for ARPA Task Force projects.

Ms. Fowler said that Mr. Christianson was soliciting for feedback from work group members on the draft documents and member Mercado had communicated (via email) her desire to for there to be alignment (lacking in her opinion) between community feedback and ARPA allocation applications/requests.

Member Zamarripa inquired about the 2nd tranche ARPA RFP process.

Ms. Fowler and member Knapp replied that a community request required sponsorship for an alder or department, one request from COLE was received by Pres. Perez's office, there were no other community request presently, the RFP process has not been determined, the work group needed to review and finalize those RFP elements (criteria, timeline, application, instructions among other things), and the work group would submit their recommendations to the full task force for review and approval.

C. Establishing additional work groups

- i. City Budget and Community Needs Work Group*
- ii. Other*

Ms. Fowler said that she had proposed the City Budget and Community Needs Work Group previously to help determine how to split the remaining 2nd tranche and what amount to make available to the community.

Members discussed that the task force should stay the course, should make that determination, should avoid establishing too many work groups, for there to be a standing agenda task force item on the City budget to help the task force make that

determination, that further ARPA allocations to City services would not satisfy the City's overall budgetary needs, and for the Proposal Collection, Review Funding and Criteria Work Group to consider and address criteria regarding level of funding (self sustaining vs. all-or-nothing) from proposals.

Member Kovac said that he can provide an update on the City budget as a standing agenda item; however, there may be speculation and no real specificity given.

9. Next steps.

A. Items for future agenda

Standing items (including update on City budget) and proposal for two additional public input meetings. Rest to be determined.

B. Set next meeting date(s) and time(s).

Monday, February 27, 2023 at 1 p.m.

10. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

*Chris Lee, Staff Assistant
Council Records Section
City Clerk's Office*

Meeting materials of the task force can be found within the following file:

[220789](#)

Communication relating to the activities of the American Rescue Plan Act Funding Allocation Task Force.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR