

2023

Daniel P. McCoy
County Executive

RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

Albany County
New York



Table of Contents

- 01 Executive Summary
- 06 Use of Funds
- 10 Promoting Equitable Outcomes
- 14 Community Engagement
- 19 Labor Practices
- 20 Use of Evidence
- 23 Performance Report



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction. The COVID-19 pandemic had a direct and devastating impact on many local governments, including Albany County, New York (the “County”). To battle back, and to build back better, stronger and smarter, it will take all of us working together in a partnership to accomplish this herculean task.

County of Albany Allocation. The \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) signed into law on March 11, 2021, provides \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to help mitigate the long-term effects of the pandemic and to remedy the disparity between rising costs and falling revenues. The County was allocated \$59.3 million in two equal tranches, creating a historic opportunity to achieve fiscally responsible objectives that will shape the County’s recovery and future.

Strategic Recovery and Resiliency Spending Plan. It is in the best interest of the County to identify best practices, procedures, and a strategic plan for ensuring that the County, its residents, businesses and stakeholders realize the maximum relief and benefits available under its allocation of ARPA aid. *This Recovery Plan is a living document and will continue to evolve as the County continues to engage stakeholders and monitor additional Federal actions and other funding sources that could shift the demands on its ARPA funding.*

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Key Goals. In order to best address the needs of the County, we must reflect upon what we learned from the pandemic. As we have navigated our way through this pandemic, we have:

- 1.Reimagined our operations and workforce;
- 2.Developed a better understanding of the health disparities in our communities and the need to address them;
- 3.Seen the progression of growth industries, the introduction of clean, green energy sources, and the necessity in fostering development of their technology and infrastructure;
- 4.Developed a deeper understanding that partnerships with governments, community organizations, and businesses are essential to achieving sustainable change;
- 5.Recognized the importance of the intersection of health, mental health and recreation for our youth and for the public as a whole, and the need to break down barriers to create broader opportunities for all citizens; and
- 6.Seen the internet/broadband challenges that exist in both rural and urban areas, and the significant hindrance this has had on our students.

Moving forward, key goals in the County's recovery include support for community members and organizations that have been impacted or disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be a continued effort to achieve systematic changes that will provide the most strategic and sustainable long-term benefits for the County's stakeholders, rather than investing in short-term solutions, with an overarching vision of creating a more inclusive and sustainable economy in our County.

Two-Phased Approach. With the understanding of the above, the County has developed a two-phased approach

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Phase I Update. Phase I has focused on the direct fiscal impact to County government revenues as a result of the pandemic. In 2020, Albany County experienced significant revenue losses. Such a deficit in a single year could be absolutely crippling to the operations of a government. Fortunately, during the eight years preceding the COVID-19 pandemic, Albany County Executive Daniel P. McCoy set forth prudent fiscal policies that increased the County's fund balance. Further, during the pandemic, the County developed key strategies to curtail spending, including the implementation of a hiring freeze and a committee to examine the filling of vacancies, and the establishment of an Early Separation Payout ("ESP") program. All of these actions were necessary in our response to COVID-19.

ARPA provides the County the ability to recover \$29.5 million of qualifying revenue losses, or to use the funds for government services in a forward-looking way for costs incurred after March 3, 2021. Potential uses of funds that do not fit within the other three ARPA eligible use categories may be permissible as a government service. As an illustrative example, transportation infrastructure projects are generally ineligible as a response to the public health and negative economic impacts of the pandemic, however, the County could fund these projects as a government service up to its amount of revenue loss, provided that other restrictions on use do not apply. The County is contemplating using these funds to cover costs associated with the provision of essential government services, including but not limited to:

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Salary and fringe for the continuation of routine services, e.g., public safety, public health, recreation, roads/highways, etc.;
- Salary and fringe for additional or enhanced services developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, e.g., contact tracing, vaccination, testing, public education, etc.; and
- Programmatic and contractual expenditures for the continuation of routine services as well as novel, just-in-time enhanced services developed in response to COVID-19.

Phase II Commencement. As of the date of this Report, the County is in the process of its Phase II data-driven, decision-making processes to engage and assess community needs that will have meaningful impacts on our most vulnerable, underserved and impacted stakeholders.

A decision-making framework has been established to oversee the use of ARPA funds that will adhere to Treasury guidelines, combat the negative impacts of COVID-19, and set the County on a path to sustainable and inclusive economic growth. This framework includes an Executive Committee comprised of key County officials, including the County Executive, bipartisan representation from the County Legislature, the County Comptroller, and the Office of Management and Budget, as well as focused subcommittees comprised of County representatives and public stakeholders. Subcommittees have worked collaboratively to establish priority areas of investment based on member expertise and community input. Their recommendations were the basis for the County 2023 Investment Plan, which was published in March 2023 for community feedback on the County's ARPA Portal (<https://albanycountyarpa.org>). In addition, a full copy of the Investment Plan is attached as Appendix A of this Report.

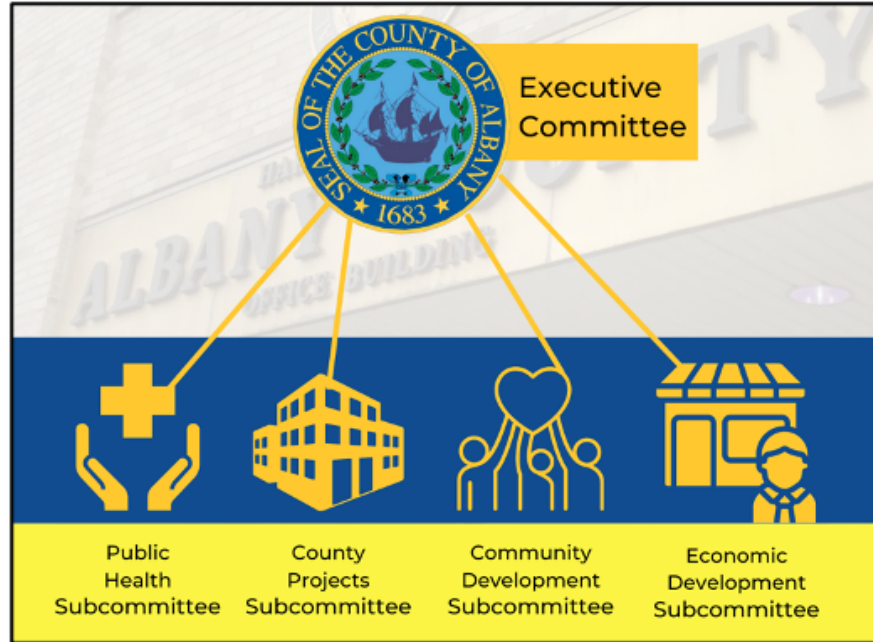
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW



As noted above, in March 2023 the County released its ARPA Investment Plan. The Strategic Investment Plan outlines the ‘rules of the road’ set by the Treasury Department, explains the County’s process, establishes a timeline for next steps, and provides information on how we propose to invest these funds into our County and community. The focus areas of the Plan are divided into three categories: Economic Recovery and Growth; Community Development and Public Health; and County Infrastructure and Workforce.

Funding requests, both internal and external, are carefully evaluated to ensure prospective projects maximize the County’s allocation of ARPA aid, promote the long-term fiscal health of the County and comply with U.S. Treasury guidelines and requirements. As of the date of this Report, the County is in the process of both evaluating applications for key focus areas, while concurrently developing comprehensive applications for other areas.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

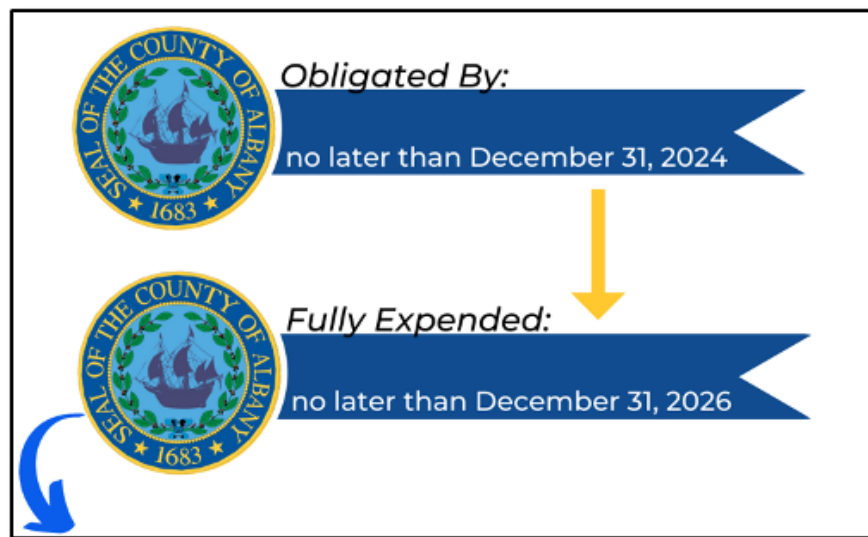
ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

USE OF FUNDS

Spending Requirements. ARPA funds must be “obligated” by State and Local Governments no later than December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026. According to the Final Rule, the U.S. Treasury adopted “a definition of ‘obligation’ that is based on the definition used for purposes of the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR part 200), which will allow for uniform administration of this requirement and is a definition with which most recipients will be familiar.”



Eligibility. Funding is subject to the requirements specified in the Final Rule, which was adopted by the U.S. Treasury in January 2022. As detailed in the Final Rule, subject to possible future change and/or amendment, recipients may use funds to:

- *Support Public Health Expenditures:* For example: mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff;
- *Address Negative Economic Impacts:* Including economic harm to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries and the public sector;

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- *Replace Lost Revenue*: This is a formula driven calculation;
- *Provide Premium Pay to Essential Workers*: Offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors, and;
- *Invest in Certain Types of Infrastructure*: Such as Water, Sewer, and Broadband.

Other Funding Sources. The County is aware there are other potential funding sources that may help finance programs and other ARPA requests. To that end, the County shall investigate alternative funding sources to be used in addition to, or in conjunction with, ARPA funds.

Comprehensive Analysis. As Phase II continues, the County is continuing its comprehensive review of proposed uses of ARPA aid for eligibility. Funding requests, both internal and external, will be carefully evaluated to ensure prospective projects maximize the County's allocation of ARPA aid, promote the long-term structural fiscal health of the County and comply with U.S. Treasury guidelines and requirements.

In conducting its review of prospective uses of ARPA funding, the County shall:

- Frame and prioritize issues;
- Conduct internal analyses, which may include the ARPA Sub-Committee(s), the ARPA Executive Committee or the County;
- Provide recommendations to the County Legislature, which, by resolution, will formally approve such uses, and;
- Provide implementation support as deemed appropriate and necessary.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

County Strategic Investment Categories. Using community input and an internal review of the County's highest priorities, Albany County has developed a Strategic Investment Plan to ensure ARPA funds are used to meet the County's immediate needs as well as to provide long-term, transformative investments for tomorrow. The Investment Plan, which was publicly released in March 2023, is available on the County's ARPA Portal (<https://albanycountyarpa.org>). In addition, a full copy of the Investment Plan is attached as Appendix A of this Report.

The Investment Plan is broken into three funding categories:

1. Economic Growth and Recovery;
2. Community Development and Public Health; and
3. County Infrastructure and Workforce.

Within each of the above categories, key focus areas have been ranked in current order of funding priority. This ranking was based on subcommittee and public input, and County need.

The Proposed Implementation Timeline of the Investment Plan is included on the following page

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

| PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE | |
|---|--|
| March 2023 | Investment Plan Public Comment and Meetings |
| April 2023 | Economic Development Funding Application Launches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Business Grants • Workforce Development Grants • Tourism, Arts, and Culture Grants • Blighted Property Demolition/Rehabilitation Grants |
| May/June 2023 | Economic Development Awards Announced |
| June 2023 | Community Development & Public Health Application Launches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse & Telehealth Grants • Affordable Housing & Housing Support Grants • Community Improvement Capital Grants • Food Access Grants • Non-Profit Recovery Grants (Other) • Preventing and Responding to Violence Grants • Youth Services Grants • Senior Services Grants • Transportation Services Grants |
| July/August 2023 | Community Development & Public Health Application Awards |

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

The County is invested in ensuring any programs enacted using ARPA funding are conducted equitably, and in funding programs that specifically address existing inequities.

Economic Impacts. The COVID-19 pandemic brought more than just health concerns. The economic impact of COVID-19 continues to come into sharper focus, and governmental entities across the United States remain in the direct line of fire. Due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 outbreak, the degree of any continuing impact on the County's operations and finances is extremely difficult to predict. There are many uncertainties relating to the pandemic's duration and severity, as well as with regard to what actions may be taken by Federal or State governments and other health care authorities to contain or mitigate its impact. As such, it will be important for the County to:

- Continually monitor how revenues have been and will continue to be affected by the pandemic-induced economic downturn;
- Use such proactive measures as may be required to maintain its operations and meet its obligations; and
- Plan for the best and most strategic long-term use of its ARPA allocation.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Local Impacts. Throughout the economic shutdown and fiscal uncertainty, the County led its residents through the uncertainty they faced while managing the crisis to the best of its ability. County staff remained on the frontlines, working throughout the crisis to assist residents and stakeholders every step of the way, whether with food deliveries, quarantine information and guidance, rental assistance and direction, and information and feedback; the County remained operational throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, the pandemic has demonstrated how poverty fosters disparities in negative public health and safety outcomes for residents living in low-income or segregated neighborhoods. Albany County is not unique in that “social determinants of health” – the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age – affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. And because everything is interrelated, factors like socioeconomic status, education, neighborhood and physical environment, employment, and social support networks, as well as access to health care, impact the whole health of our community and her residents. Therefore, the County’s recovery efforts aim to address not only the systemic roots of poverty but its symptoms.

Albany County “Stat” and Data-Driven Government & Services. The County government is the largest provider of social services in the county and delivers key social safety net programs to thousands of county residents each year. These programs are federally-, state-, and locally-funded through a variety of sources. Ultimately, these programs are intended to aid residents in need and move them to self-sustainability and economic mobility. Because Albany County recognizes that a large part of providing equitable services to our communities is centered on utilizing the data we collect to better inform and steer those services, the County is restructuring its underlying data infrastructure across various departments and programs.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

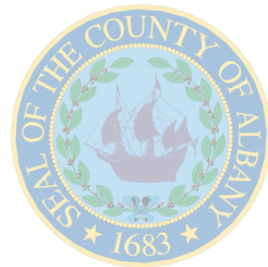
The key objectives of this work are to:

- Provide senior leadership at the organization with better business intelligence regarding the populations being served by the County's programs;
- Better target specific programs at appropriate recipients;
- Better understand the impact of programs, and;
- Enable the County to innovate higher-intensity programming for residents who need additional support who are currently high-utilizers of county programming for long periods of time.

Over time, the County will create a Data Analytics Division within its Department of Management and Budget. This unit will focus not only on the reactive effort to examine existing programs and services with the goal of improving effectiveness and efficiency, but also the proactive goal of using data to develop new programs. Constant evaluation through the development of performance indicators will provide the County with feedback on how effective our efforts and resources are towards effectuating change on their intended targets. Coordination and management of this initiative will be centralized within the Department of Management and Budget, and additional personnel will be embedded within departments according to the Comprehensive Workforce Development Plan. This structure will allow expertise and specialization within each department while also preserving the overarching county-wide goals that frequently cut across departmental responsibilities.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

As of July 2023, the County has taken measurable steps to modernize its data capabilities, with a particular focus on creating internal structure, competence, and culture that promotes using and sharing data to make programmatic decisions and improvements. The County's Department of Management and Budget has hired a Data Analytics and Performance Management Coordinator. Additionally, the County Executive has tasked the Department of Management and Budget with the development of a County Data Strategy to function as a roadmap for implementing the County's data vision and mission.

Concurrently, the County Executive, the Department of Management and Budget, and the Division of Information Services have engaged a consultant and are working with the County's Department of Aging; Department of Children, Youth and Families; Department of Health; Department of Mental Health; Department of Probation; and Department of Social Services to map their data systems. This process includes reviewing databases, processes, reports, key performance indicators, required reporting, common data fields, and other data infrastructure components. Using the information gleaned from data mapping, the consultant will develop a data infrastructure plan to best meet the county's needs. Part of this plan will include a technical recommendation regarding the IT solution needed to execute the County's Data Strategy. By providing this access, we believe we can provide easily obtained wrap-around services to constituents, develop new, targeted, services to constituents historically excluded from government services, and internally achieve economies of scale for these services, providing a more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The rollout of the County's Data Strategy, including staffing and program development, will be iterative over the coming years.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Equity in Application Evaluation. Equity will be central in the screening criteria for each project being considered for ARPA funding. This is woven into both the application process and the evaluation process. Subject matter experts in the County's ARPA Committees have assisted with the development of funding applications and will conduct the initial review of project applications. Each proposal will be collaboratively scored on a uniform scale on whether the proposal 1) aligned with a socio-economic outcome that advance equity, 2) serve impacted populations, or those adversely affected by COVID-19, and 3) would support equitable recovery from COVID-19. As such, each proposed initiative will be evaluated for its equity impact. As appropriate, approved projects will be requested to track equity-centric metrics (such as demographic information) to facilitate impact evaluation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Strategic Community Engagement. The County is committed to ensuring that ARPA investments directly respond to the needs of County residents and that they address the inequities exposed by the pandemic. As such, the County developed a four-pronged community engagement strategy to shape its ARPA decision-making. These steps include:

- *Inform.* Stakeholder engagement and making information available to the public was the critical first step in the County's engagement process; it was equally important to ensure that information is clear, simple, and accessible so that stakeholders were provided with the necessary tools to appropriately understand the parameters of ARPA.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- *Consult.* Obtaining stakeholder feedback was an important second step in the County's engagement process. The County listened to stakeholders, which aided in the ability to develop a better understanding of their views, values and needs. This step aided and helped to set the foundation for the development of ARPA Investment Plan. Pandemic-related impacts and common themes were identified and further discussed with the ARPA Subcommittees and Executive Committee.
- *Collaborate.* Working in partnership with the ARPA Subcommittees, with the aid of stakeholder input, the development of prospective strategic ARPA initiatives became the fourth step. The County identified a set of tentative prioritized solutions focused on remediating the identified negative COVID-19 impacts.
- *Decide.* The final step of the engagement process was the formal approval of ARPA initiatives by the ARPA Executive Committee. This was done through the formal the adoption of the ARPA Investment Plan. In a transparent fashion, the County will continue to take responsibility for recommending to the Legislature and the County Executive the best, most impactful uses of ARPA funds.

Some of the community engagement tools which were employed by the County are included on the following page.

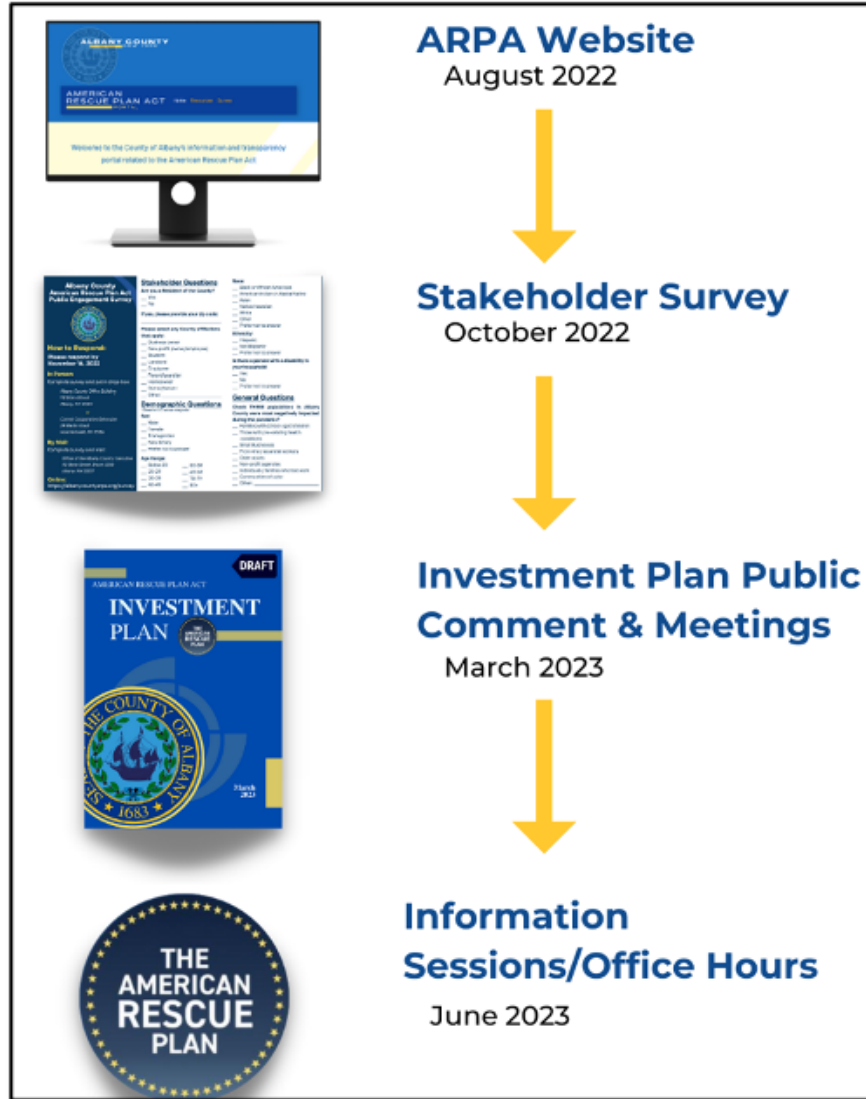
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW



Identifying Stakeholders. For its engagement efforts, the County included a wide range of stakeholders with various sets of interests that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. These stakeholders included, but were not limited to:

- Residents
- Businesses
- Nonprofits
- Employees
- Students

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

Public Engagement Survey Results. On October 17, 2022, the County launched a website and interactive survey for the community to provide input on needs and priorities for ARPA funding. Response highlights from the public engagement survey are provided below.

Total Responses: 1,591

Key Demographics: Below are a series of demographic highlights from the respondents:

Respondent Age: Youth and young adults ages 39 or younger accounted for 34.9% of respondents, adults between the ages of 40 to 59 accounted for 39.7%, while the remaining 25.4% were 60 or older.

Respondent Sex: Female respondents accounted for 55.4% of responses, male respondents accounted for 39.8% of responses, non-binary respondents accounted for 1.1% of responses, transgender respondents accounted for 0.6% of responses, while the remaining 3.1% of respondents indicated they preferred not to answer.

Respondent Race: Approximately 74.9% of respondents identified their race as White, 10.8% were Black or African American, 9.0% preferred not to answer, 0.9% were Asian, 0.3% were Indian or Alaska Native, 0.1% were native Hawaiian and the remaining 3.9% identified their race as other.

Respondent Ethnicity: Approximately 5.1% of respondents identified their ethnicity as Hispanic, while the remaining 94.9% were either not Hispanic or preferred not to answer.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

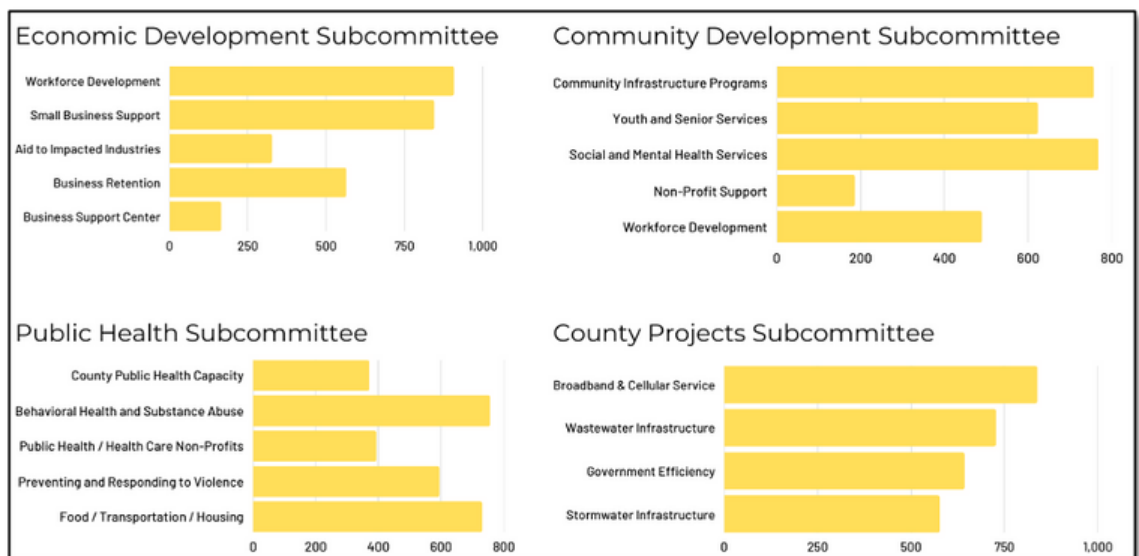
GENERAL OVERVIEW

Most Impacted County Populations. When asked to identify the most negatively impacted populations in the County, the top three (3) identified populations, in order, were the:

1. Front-line and/or essential workers
2. Families with school-aged children
3. Small businesses

Overall Funding Priorities. When asked about the importance of eight (8) different ARPA eligible funding priorities, respondents gave the highest votes of importance to community health and wellness, homeless and housing services and public infrastructure.

Subcommittee Specific Funding Priorities: Respondents were asked to rank funding priorities specific to each of the County's four (4) ARPA subcommittees. On the following page is a summary of the results.



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

Shared Services Opportunities. There are numerous laws authorizing collaboration between jurisdictions and this is generally considered to be a best practice by most industry associations. To meet these best practices, for Phase II, the County will consider regional initiatives, including, as applicable, partnering agencies with other ARPA recipients.

LABOR PRACTICES

Albany County firmly believes that strong labor standards promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers. The County has an extensive “Minority Business Utilization and Contract Compliance” policy as part of its “Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Plan.” The purpose of this policy is to promote and ensure equal opportunity for socially and economically disadvantaged businesses who would like to contract with Albany County. For all contracts exceeding \$100,000.00 in value for goods, services or construction, contractors are required to make good faith efforts to utilize at least seven percent for Minority Business Enterprises (MBE’s) and five percent (5%) for Women Business Enterprises (WBE’s) of the dollar value of the prime contract for subsequent subcontracts awarded to small businesses certified as disadvantaged business enterprise. Albany County’s Division of Affirmative Action monitors subcontracting and labor participation for contracts let by agencies and authorities of Albany County.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Separately, as stipulated in all awards and contracts, any laborers providing services under a contract with Albany County will not be paid less than the current prevailing rate of wages and shall be provided supplements not less than the prevailing supplements as established by the New York State Department of Labor, per the New York State Prevailing Schedule of Wages. Any project labor agreements are project-specific and are authorized by the County Legislature.

USE OF EVIDENCE

Under Phase I, the County is using revenue replacement funds to maintain and expand the provision of essential government services. For Phase II, the County evaluated economic data, reviewed County department and capital needs, completed a comprehensive stakeholder engagement effort and publicly released a formal Investment Plan. A copy of the Investment Plan is included on the County's ARPA Portal (<https://albanycountyarpa.org/investment>) and is also attached as Appendix A of this Report.

The Investment Plan outlined the 'rules of the road' set by the Treasury Department, explains the County's process, establishes a timeline for next steps, and provides information on how we propose to invest these funds into our County and community. The \$29.4 million in ARPA funds included in the Investment Plan are divided into three categories:

1. Economic Recovery and Growth;
2. Community Development and Public Health; and
3. County Infrastructure and Workforce.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

In June 2023, the County began soliciting applications for certain projects included in the Economic Recovery and Growth category. Additional solicitations are expected in the second half of 2023.

The Investment Plan is a living document and will continue to evolve as the County engages stakeholders and monitors additional Federal actions and other funding sources that could shift the demands on its ARPA funding.

Moving forward, key goals in the County's recovery include support for community members and organizations that have been impacted or disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be a continued effort to achieve systematic changes that will provide the most strategic and sustainable long-term benefits for the County's stakeholders, rather than investing in short-term solutions, with an overarching vision of creating a more inclusive and sustainable economy in our County.

The County generally followed the following process to gather information and consider program or project proposals:

- A list of prospective projects and proposals that meet the County's goals and objectives for its ARPA allocation was developed and is maintained by the County.
- All prospective projects and proposals underwent a comprehensive vetting process by the County to ensure that proposals met regulations defined by U.S. Treasury i.e., projects shall conform to one of the following categories:

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

1. Replace lost public sector revenue to strengthen support for vital public services and to develop long-term structurally sound financial operations.
 2. Support the County's response effort to the COVID-19 pandemic to continue to decrease the spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control.
 3. Provide support and immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses.
 4. Address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the unequal impacts of the pandemic.
- The County prioritized projects and proposals and determined whether such projects and proposals were feasible for further consideration. Such projects were further considered by the most appropriate ARPA subcommittee and then the Executive Committee.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

PERFORMANCE REPORT

As indicated, the County is still in the process of implementing the Investment Plan which was publicly released in March 2023. Under Phase I, the County is using revenue replacement funds to maintain and expand the provision of essential government services. Additional projects which have been obligated by the County are also included in the below summary:

| Expenditure Category | Cumulative Obligation | Cumulative Expenditure ⁽¹⁾ |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Revenue Replacement | \$29,515,879.50 | \$0.00 |
| 2. Broadband Feasibility Study | \$175,000.00 | \$154,600.00 |
| 3. ARPA Consultant | \$180,000.00 | \$105,000.00 |
| 4. Small Business Grant Program & Program Administration | \$1,000,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| 5. On-the-Job Training Grant Program | \$1,000,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| 6. Firewall Replacement (Information Services) | \$336,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| 7. Central Storage Upgrade (Information Services) | \$312,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| 8. Septage Fog Receiving Station (Water Purification) | \$3,500,000.00 | \$0.00 |

(1) Expenditures as of July 19, 2023.

In March 2023, the County released a formal Investment Plan which identifies various categories and subcategories with respect to the strategic use of its ARPA allocation. As of the date of this Recovery Plan, the County is in the process of implementing the Investment Plan. The Investment Plan is publicly available on the County’s ARPA portal (<https://albanycountyarpa.org/investment>) and includes additional info on the anticipated use of funds. In addition, a full copy of the Investment Plan is attached as Appendix A of this Report.

Plan Progression. This Recovery Plan, the aforementioned Investment Plan and the County’s performance measuring efforts will be a living document and process. It will continue to evolve as the County monitors the ongoing use of ARPA funds and as additional Federal actions or other possible funding sources that could shift the demands on ARPA funding come into focus. The County intends to reassess, amend, and pivot plans in case of unanticipated needs, unforeseen setbacks, or weak outcomes.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

PROJECT INVENTORY

I. REVENUE REPLACEMENT

Project Identification Number: 1.0

Project Expenditure Category: 6 - Revenue Replacement

Project Sub-Category: 6.1 - Provision of Government Services

Obligated Funding: \$29,515,879.50

Funds Spent to Date: \$0.00 (As of July 19, 2023)

Project Overview: Based on a year-over-year analysis and using the growth factors allowable per Treasury guidelines, the County's calculated revenue loss is \$29,515,879.50. Such funds will be utilized by the County to ensure continuity of vital government services, including but not limited to:

- Salary and fringe for the continuation of routine services, e.g., public safety, public health, , recreation, roads/highways, etc.;
- Salary and fringe for additional or enhanced services developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, e.g., contact tracing, vaccination, testing, public education, etc.; and
- Programmatic and contractual expenditures for the continuation of routine services as well as novel, just-in-time enhanced services developed in response to COVID-19.

Use of Evidence: No ARPA funds are being used for evidence-based interventions. The Category/Sub-Category above referenced does not require the Use of Evidence.

Performance Report:

Output: The County continues to provide residents with vital governmental services without interruption.

Outcome: Ensure the health and wellbeing of all County stakeholders is preserved and safeguarded.



II. CONNECT ALBANY BROADBAND INITIATIVE FEASIBILITY STUDY

Project Identification Number: ED-BB-Study (21-506)

Project Expenditure Category: 6 - Revenue Replacement

Project Sub-Category: 6.1 - Provision of Government Services

Obligated Funding: \$154,600.00

Funds Spent to Date: \$154,600.00 (As of July 19, 2023)

The County originally obligated \$175,000.00 in connection with the Connect Albany Broadband Initiative Feasibility Study. However, actual expenditures were only \$154,600. The \$20,400 difference between the original obligation and actual expenditures was returned to revenue replacement to ensure continuity of vital government services.

Project Overview: After a thorough RFP process, the County contracted with Insight Public Sector and Tilson Technology to complete the study. The County commissioned a gap analysis and feasibility study to expand high speed internet in the County. Access to high-speed broadband internet is a necessity for the County's economy and quality of life as has been made even more apparent by the COVID-19 pandemic. The intent of the County's efforts relative to broadband are to:

1. Increase access to high-speed broadband internet for all residents; and
2. Increase competition within the residential and commercial broadband industry.

The County, as well as the Insight and Tilson teams, worked closely with New York State and their contractor to ensure that all work is complementary (and not duplicative) of the work that is being done at the State level. Although disparate from the feasibility study, Albany County is hopeful that construction on "last mile" projects will commence in 2023 and will be operable by 2024.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

Upon completing the study, the County will have an actionable solution or suite of solutions and/or policies that the County can apply for State and Federal funding to implement.

Use of Evidence: No ARPA funds are being used for evidence-based interventions. The Category/Sub-Category above referenced does not require the Use of Evidence.

Performance Report:

Output: The County procured the services of a qualified firm to conduct a feasibility study assessing the “Connect Albany” Broadband Initiative.

Outcome: The County will be able to address planning for Broadband Projects to be funded with ARPA funds.

III. ARPA CONSULTANT

Project Identification Number: ED-ARPA-Consultant (22-512)

Project Expenditure Category: 7-Administrative

Project Sub-Category: 7.1-Administrative Expenses

Obligated Funding: \$180,000.00

Funds Spent to Date: \$105,000.00 (As of July 19, 2023)

Project Overview: Through a competitive process, the County engaged the professional services of an advisor to provide outside consulting services and technical assistance with respect to ARPA plan development, public engagement, reporting and grant compliance and management.

Use of Evidence: No ARPA funds are being used for evidence-based interventions. The Category/Sub-Category above referenced does not require the Use of Evidence.

Performance Report:

Output: The County will competitively procure the services of an external ARPA consultant.

Outcome: The external ARPA advisor will help the County to identify the best and most strategic use of its ARPA allocation and to comply with all future reporting requirements.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

PROJECT INVENTORY

IV. SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM & ADMIN.

Project Identification Number (Legislative Resolution Number): 23-244

Project Expenditure Category: 2 - Negative Economic Impacts

Project Sub-Category: 2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Obligated Funding: \$1,000,000.00

Funds Spent to Date: \$0.00 (As of July 19, 2023)

Project Overview: As part of the County's ARPA Investment Plan the County dedicated \$1.0 million to help economically impacted small businesses in the County recover and grow. Such funds will be provided to small businesses in the form of grants and will require an application and approval process. The funds will be provided to the Community Loan Fund of the Capital Region who will oversee all related aspects of this grant program.

Use of Evidence: The COVID-19 pandemic has severely harmed commerce in the County, with brick-and-mortar small businesses suffering from significant reductions in foot traffic and consumer spending. The goal of this program is to strengthen and stabilize small businesses in the County that were negatively impacted by the pandemic.

This use of funds was comprehensively reviewed and recommended by both the appropriate ARPA Subcommittee and the ARPA Executive Committee and then approved by the County Legislature.

Performance Report:

Output: A minimum of 90% of the obligated funds will be utilized toward evidence-based interventions.

Outcome: The project is not yet far enough along to assess performance.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

PROJECT INVENTORY

V. ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM & ADMIN.

Project Identification Number: (Legislative Resolution Number):23-245

Project Expenditure Category: 2 – Negative Economic Impacts

Project Sub-Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

Obligated Funding: \$1,000,000.00

Funds Spent to Date: \$0.00 (As of July 19, 2023)

Project Overview: As part of the County's ARPA Investment Plan the County has obligated \$1.0 million to help those who are either unemployed or underemployed. In partnership with the Capital Region Workforce Development Board, Albany County will provide additional funding to support expansion of on-the-job training and existing working training. The funds will be provided to the Capital Region Workforce Development Board who will oversee all related aspects of this grant program.

Use of Evidence: The Capital Region Workforce Development Board is familiar with providing services to individuals facing employment barriers. The goal of this program is to improve quality of life for the County's most vulnerable residents by helping them attain employment and increase their income.

This use of funds was comprehensively reviewed and recommended by both the appropriate ARPA Subcommittee and the ARPA Executive Committee and then approved by the County Legislature.

Performance Report:

Output: A minimum of 90% of the obligated funds will be utilized toward evidence-based interventions.

Outcome: The project is not yet far enough along to assess performance.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

PROJECT INVENTORY

VI. FIREWALL REPLACEMENT

Project Identification Number (Legislative Resolution Number):23-305

Project Expenditure Category: 3 - Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Project Sub-Category: 3.4 Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Obligated Funding: \$336,000.00

Funds Spent to Date: \$0.00 (As of July 19, 2023)

Project Overview: This project would include hardware and consulting services to replace the County's primary and backup internet firewalls along with the primary and backup segmentation firewalls. Hardware will include the procurement of 4 new Next Generation Firewalls (NGFW) to replace legacy hardware that is currently in place. Consulting services will help in facilitating a network redesign that will improve the County's cybersecurity posture while also improving infrastructure speed and reliability. IT investments will enhance the effectiveness of relief and support programs addressing negative economic impacts exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of Evidence: The last several years, including during the COVID-19 pandemic, have demonstrated that County services need to be delivered in a more dynamic and accessible manner that can rapidly adjust to cybersecurity threats. The project is intended to serve both the stakeholders of County and County staff, in order to provide an accessible, safe and secure digital environment. This use of funds was comprehensively reviewed and recommended by both the appropriate ARPA Subcommittee and the ARPA Executive Committee and then approved by the County Legislature.

Performance Report:

Output: Site visits to the County's website may be measured.

Outcome: The project is not yet far enough along to assess performance.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

PROJECT INVENTORY

VII. CENTRAL STORAGE UPGRADE

Project Identification Number (Legislative Resolution Number):23-304

Project Expenditure Category: 3 - Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Project Sub-Category: 3.4 Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Obligated Funding: \$312,000.00

Funds Spent to Date: \$0.00 (As of July 19, 2023)

Project Overview: The storage environment utilized by the County is over nine years old, making it antiquated and under-resourced to support the County's ever-growing digital storage needs. This project will replace the legacy system with a new NetAPP storage environment. IT investments will enhance the effectiveness of relief and support programs addressing negative economic impacts exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of Evidence: The last several years, including during the COVID-19 pandemic, have demonstrated that County services need to be delivered in a more dynamic and accessible manner that can rapidly adjust to cybersecurity threats. The new storage environment will help the County to better adapt to the post-COVID virtual environment by providing improved overall Infrastructure speed while lowering the risk of downtime by employing a redundant system architecture. Additionally, the upgrade will help improve the Counties over all security posture by providing for a storage solution that has regular vulnerability and security patching done by the manufacture. This use of funds was comprehensively reviewed and recommended by both the appropriate ARPA Subcommittee and the ARPA Executive Committee and then approved by the County Legislature.

Performance Report:

Output: Digital storage capacity may be measured.

Outcome: The project is not yet far enough along to assess performance.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



2023 RECOVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

PROJECT INVENTORY

VIII. SEPTAGE FOG RECEIVING STATION

Project Identification Number (Legislative Resolution Number):23-306

Project Expenditure Category: 5 - Infrastructure

Project Sub-Category: 5.7 Clean Water: Energy conservation

Obligated Funding: \$3,500,000.00

Funds Spent to Date: \$0.00 (1As of July 19, 2023)

Project Overview: The project consists of the design and construction of a new septage and fats, oils, and grease (FOG) receiving station at the ACWPD North Plant. The receiving station will contain screening equipment as well as a dedicated hydronic FOG separation system that will extract brown grease for reuse as biofuel.

Use of Evidence: The project was recommended by the County Water Purification District because it will directly improve water effluent quality from the North Treatment plant by separating the FOG waste stream from the main wastewater treatment process. The project is currently on the ACWPD Capital Plan. In addition to being recommended by the County Water Purification District, this use of funds was comprehensively reviewed and recommended by both the appropriate ARPA Subcommittee and the ARPA Executive Committee. It was then approved by the County Legislature.

Performance Report:

Output: The project will allow ACWPD to accept increased volumes of septage and FOG waste from haulers, generating increased revenues via tipping fees. The project will also generate an additional revenue source via the resale of separated brown grease. Further, this project will reduce energy demands and sludge production volumes at the facility. The FOG separation system will be the first of its kind in the region and could potentially serve as a model for other POTWs across the State

Outcome: The project is not yet far enough along to assess performance.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY

2023 RECOVERY PLAN
PERFORMANCE REPORT



APPENDIX A

Albany County American Rescue Plan Act Investment Plan (As of March 2023)

In March 2023, the County publicly released its first draft of the ARPA Investment Plan. The Investment Plan is a living document and will continue to evolve as the County engages stakeholders and monitors additional Federal actions and other funding sources that could shift the demands on its ARPA funding. It is being used to help direct funds toward continuing the County's recovery from the negative impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and economic shutdown.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

INVESTMENT PLAN



March
2023

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY

Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building
112 State Street Albany, NY 12207
(518) 447-7000
<https://www.albanycounty.com/>
<https://albanycountyarpa.org>

HOW TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON THE ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN

1 Participate in a brief [NEW](#) ARPA Investment Plan Survey



OR VISIT:

<https://albanycountyarpa.org/newsurvey/>

2 Create and share your own ARPA budget



OR VISIT:

<https://albanycountyarpa.org/createbudget>

3 Attend a public meeting

Hybrid Public Meeting Date 1

Date: March 21, 2023

Time: 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Where: Cahill Room

Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building
112 State Street
Albany NY 12207

Virtual: Details for virtual attendance will be made available on the County's ARPA Portal:
<https://albanycountyarpa.org>

Hybrid Public Meeting Date 2

Date: March 27, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Where: Cahill Room

Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building
112 State Street
Albany NY 12207

Virtual: Details for virtual attendance will be made available on the County's ARPA Portal:
<https://albanycountyarpa.org>



Table of Contents

| | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--|-------------|
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MESSAGE..... | 1 |
| ARPA ELIGIBILITY OVERVIEW..... | 2 |
| THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021..... | 2 |
| ELIGIBLE USES OF ARPA FUNDS..... | 2 |
| SPENDING REQUIREMENTS..... | 3 |
| COUNTY PROCESS..... | 4 |
| STRATEGIC RECOVERY & RESILIENCY INVESTMENT PLAN..... | 4 |
| KEY GOALS..... | 4 |
| ARPA COMMITTEES..... | 5 |
| PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT..... | 7 |
| OVERVIEW..... | 7 |
| PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SURVEY..... | 8 |
| ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN SUMMARY..... | 10 |
| ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN DETAIL..... | 14 |
| ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND GROWTH..... | 14 |
| COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKFORCE..... | 15 |
| COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PUBLIC HEALTH..... | 16 |
| NEXT STEPS..... | 18 |
| PROVIDE FEEDBACK..... | 18 |

Executive Committee Message

Thank you for taking the time to review and provide feedback on Albany County's Strategic Investment Plan for our second tranche of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) recovery funds. The last three years have been an unprecedented challenge for our County, but we are proud to say that our community met that challenge head-on. Albany County is committed to utilizing our ARPA funds in a fair and impactful manner to address the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and position our County on a path toward health, equity and prosperity. We were all impacted by COVID-19 in different ways, and your feedback is vitally important to our process.

This Strategic Investment Plan outlines the 'rules of the road' set by the Treasury Department, explains the County's process, establishes a timeline for next steps, and provides information on how we propose to invest these funds into our County and community. As you will see in the summary pages below, the \$29.4 million in ARPA funds that are the focus of this plan are divided into three categories: Economic Recovery and Growth; Community Development and Public Health; and County Infrastructure and Workforce. In the coming months, we will be soliciting applications for funding in each of these categories, and it is our hope that these funds will serve as a catalyst to encourage further investment in our community.



THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

The \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) signed into law on March 11, 2021, provides \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to help mitigate the long-term effects of the Pandemic and to remedy the disparity between rising costs and falling revenues.

Albany County received \$59.3 million in two equal tranches, creating a historic opportunity to achieve fiscally responsible yet transformational objectives that will shape the County’s recovery and future.

ELIGIBLE USES OF ARPA FUNDS

The American Rescue Plan Act provides significant resources for the County to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and the resulting economic impact through programs and services that fall within several categories of eligible uses:



Support Public Health Response

Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff



Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss

Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic



Water and Sewer Infrastructure

Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water and invest in wastewater and stormwater infrastructure



Address Negative Economic Impacts

Respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector



Premium Pay for Essential Workers

Offer additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors



Broadband Infrastructure

Make necessary investments to provide unserved or underserved locations with new or expanded broadband access



Within these primary categories, governments have some level of flexibility to determine how best to use the stimulus funds to meet the specific needs of their communities and populations. ARPA also allows for broad flexibility in the use of funds for programs and services that target the hardest-hit communities and families or those provided within Qualified Census Tracts and other disproportionately impacted areas.

SPENDING REQUIREMENTS

ARPA funds must be obligated no later than December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026.



Obligated By:

no later than December 31, 2024



Fully Expended:

no later than December 31, 2026

Funds that are not fully spent by December 31, 2026 are required to be returned to the U.S. Treasury.



STRATEGIC RECOVERY & RESILIENCY INVESTMENT PLAN

It is in the best interest of the County to identify best practices and procedures, and to identify a strategic plan for ensuring that the County, including its residents, businesses and stakeholders realize the maximum relief and benefits available as a result of ARPA aid.

This Investment Plan is a living document and will continue to evolve as the County engages stakeholders and monitors additional Federal actions and other possible funding sources that could shift the demands on its ARPA funding.

KEY GOALS

In order to best address the needs of the County, we must reflect upon what we learned from COVID-19. As we have navigated our way through this pandemic, we have:

- 1 Reimagined our operations and workforce;
- 2 Developed a better understanding of the health disparities in our communities and the need to address them;
- 3 Seen the progression of growth industries, the introduction of clean, green energy sources, and the necessity in fostering development of their technology and infrastructure;
- 4 Made a commitment to economic development and are cognizant of the fact that the strategic location of some projects can be the catalyst to strengthen communities;
- 5 Developed a deeper understanding that partnerships with governments, community organizations, and businesses are essential to achieving sustainable change;
- 6 Recognized the importance of the intersection of health, mental health and recreation for our youth and for the public as a whole, and the need to break down barriers to create broader opportunities for all citizens; and
- 7 Seen the internet/broadband challenges that exist in both rural and urban areas, and the significant hindrance this has had on our students.



Moving forward, key goals in the County's recovery include support for community members and organizations that have been impacted or disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be a continued effort to achieve systematic changes that will provide the most strategic and sustainable long-term benefits for the County's stakeholders, rather than investing in short-term solutions, with an overarching vision of creating a more inclusive and sustainable economy in our County.

ARPA COMMITTEES

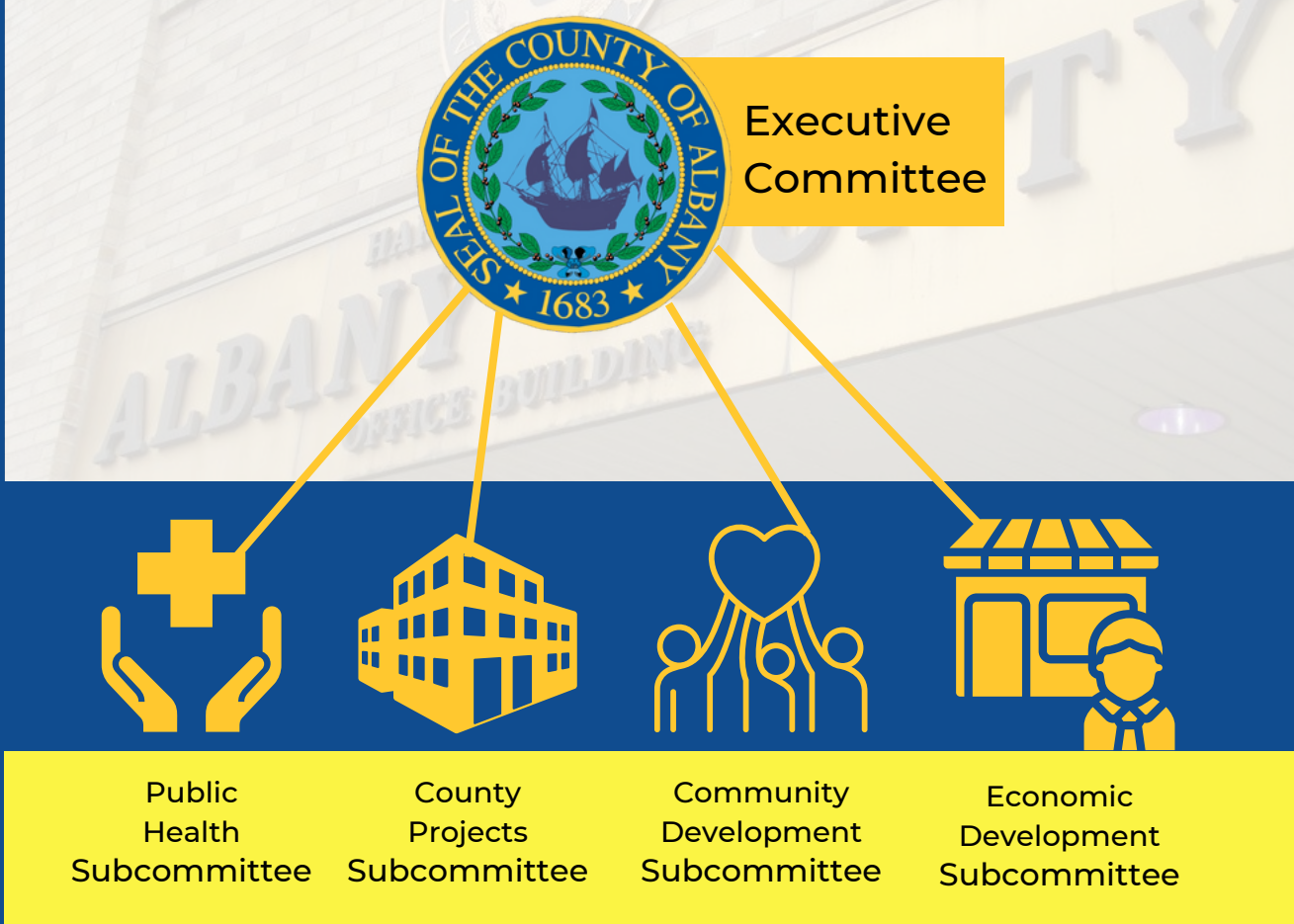
A decision-making framework has been established to oversee the use of ARPA funds that will adhere to Treasury guidelines, combat the negative impacts of COVID-19, and set the County on a path to sustainable and inclusive economic growth. This framework includes an Executive Committee comprised of key County officials, including the County Executive, bipartisan representation from the County Legislature, the County Comptroller, and the Office of Management and Budget, as well as focused subcommittees comprised of County representatives and public stakeholders. Subcommittees have worked collaboratively to establish priority areas of investment based on member expertise and community input. Their recommendations were the basis for this Investment Plan, which we are publishing for community feedback as we prepare to release applications for funding.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



COUNTY PROCESS



Funding requests, both internal and external, will be carefully evaluated to ensure prospective projects maximize the County's allocation of ARPA aid, promote the long-term fiscal health of the County and comply with U.S. Treasury guidelines and requirements.

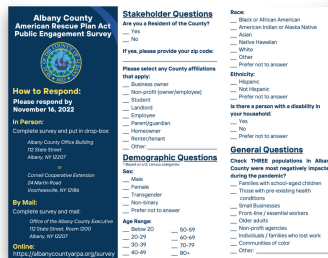


OVERVIEW

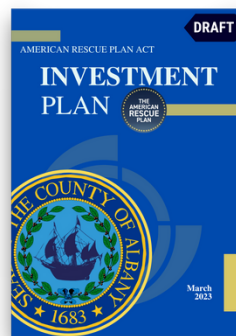
The County is committed to ensuring that our ARPA investments directly respond to the needs of County residents and that they address the inequities exposed by the pandemic. As such, the County developed a four-pronged community engagement strategy to shape its ARPA decision-making. More information will be included as we move through this process.



ARPA Website
August 2022



Stakeholder Survey
October 2022



Investment Plan Public Comment & Meetings
March 2023



Information Sessions/Office Hours*
Once Applications Start
(April - June 2023)

*More information will be available



To date, the County's public engagement efforts have fostered meaningful conversations and provided key data points which have informed the development of this investment plan.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

On October 17, 2022, the County launched a website and interactive survey for the community to provide input on needs and priorities for ARPA funding. Response highlights from the public engagement survey are provided below. For more a more comprehensive breakdown of survey responses, please visit: <https://albanycountyarpa.org>.

Response Highlights from Public Engagement Survey:

Total Responses: 1,591

Key Demographics: Below are a series of demographic highlights from the respondents:

Respondent Age: Youth and young adults ages 39 or younger accounted for 34.9% of respondents, adults between the ages of 40 to 59 accounted for 39.7%, while the remaining 25.4% were 60 or older.

Respondent Sex: Female respondents accounted for 55.4% of responses, male respondents accounted for 39.8% of responses, non-binary respondents accounted for 1.1% of responses, transgender respondents accounted for 0.6% of responses, while the remaining 3.1% of respondents indicated they preferred not to answer.

Respondent Race: Approximately 74.9% of respondents identified their race as white, 10.8% were black or African American, 9.0% preferred not to answer, 0.9% were Asian, 0.3% were Indian or Alaska Native, 0.1% were native Hawaiian and the remaining 3.9% identified their race as other.

Respondent Ethnicity: Approximately 5.1% of respondents identified their ethnicity as Hispanic, while the remaining 94.9% were either not Hispanic or preferred not to answer.



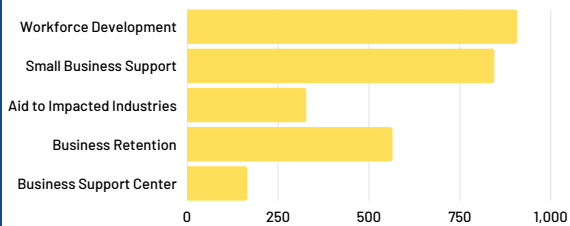
Most Impacted County Populations. When asked to identify the most negatively impacted populations in the County, the top three (3) identified populations, in order, were the:

- Front-line and/or essential workers
- Families with school-aged children
- Small businesses

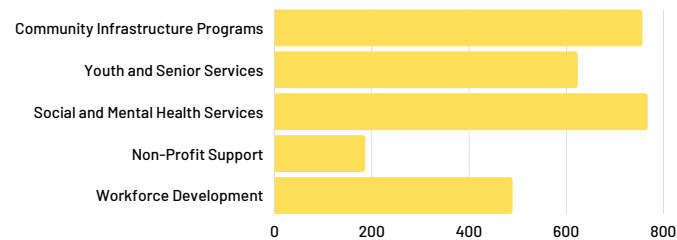
Overall Funding Priorities. When asked about the importance of eight (8) different ARPA eligible funding priorities, respondents gave the highest votes of importance to community health and wellness, homeless and housing services and public infrastructure.

Subcommittee Specific Funding Priorities: Respondents were asked to rank funding priorities specific to each of the County's four (4) ARPA subcommittees. Below is a summary of the results.

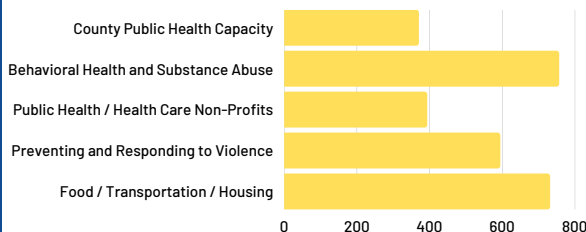
Economic Development Subcommittee



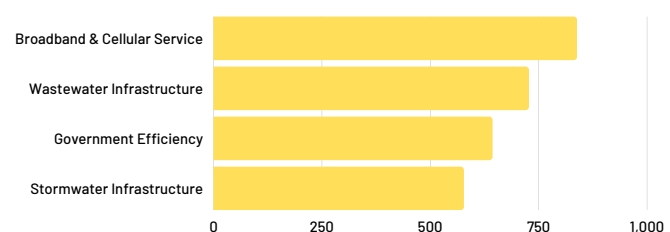
Community Development Subcommittee



Public Health Subcommittee



County Projects Subcommittee





ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN SUMMARY

Using community input and an internal review of the County's highest priorities, Albany County has developed this Strategic Investment Plan to ensure ARPA funds are used to meet the County's immediate needs as well as to provide long-term, transformative investments for tomorrow. We are seeking public comment in order to further refine this plan as we prepare to make funds available for County priorities and to the community. The following plan is broken into three funding categories: Economic Growth and Recovery; Community Development and Public Health; and County Infrastructure and Workforce. Within each category, key focus areas are ranked in current order of funding priority based on subcommittee and public input. Please consider taking our Investment Plan survey to offer feedback on the plan. (visit: <https://albanycountyarpa.org/newsurvey>)

There are three ways to provide feedback:

- 1 Complete our *NEW* Investment Plan Survey
- 2 Create a sample budget
- 3 Attend a public meeting

The following 2 pages include a summary of the County's Key Focus Areas.

For additional information on the Key Focus Areas below please refer to pages 14 to 17.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN SUMMARY

| Strategic County Priority | Allocation | Priority Rank | Key Focus Areas | ARPA Eligibility Category |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|---|---|
| Economic Growth And Recovery | \$7.9 Million | 1 | Small Business Grants | Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship |
| | | 2 | Workforce Development Grants | Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship |
| | | 3 | On-the Job Training Funding | Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning |
| | | 4 | Tourism, Arts, and Culture Grants | Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality |
| | | 5 | Blighted Property Demolition/Rehabilitation Grants* | Rehabilitation of Commercial Properties or Other Improvements |
| | | 6 | Commercial Property Conversion/Reinvention Program | Rehabilitation of Commercial Properties or Other Improvements |
| | | 7 | County Tourism and Economic Development Capacity | Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality |
| Strategic County Priority | Allocation | Priority Rank | Key Focus Areas | ARPA Eligibility Category |
| County Infrastructure and Workforce | \$12.2 Million | 1 | Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure | Clean Water: Stormwater Water and Sewer: Other |
| | | 2 | Broadband Infrastructure | Broadband: Other projects |
| | | 3 | County IT Infrastructure | Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs |
| | | 4 | County Workforce Retention/Attraction | Public Sector Workforce: Other |
| | | 5 | Effective Service Delivery Investments | Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery |
| | | 6 | County Public and Mental Health Initiatives | Mental Health Services |
| | | 7 | Parks and Open Space Funding | Provision of Government Services |

*Limited to Qualified Census Tracts

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN SUMMARY

| Strategic County Priority | Allocation | Priority Rank | Key Focus Areas | ARPA Eligibility Category |
|--|----------------------|---------------|--|---|
| Community Development And Public Health | \$8.8 Million | 1 | Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse & Telehealth Grants | Mental Health Services Substance Use Services |
| | | 2 | Affordable Housing & Housing Support Grants | Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing |
| | | 3 | Community Improvement Capital Grants | Economic Impact Assistance: Other |
| | | 4 | Food Access Grants | Household Assistance: Food Programs |
| | | 5 | Frontline Worker Support Program | |
| | | 6 | Non-Profit Recovery Grants (Other) | Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations |
| | | 7 | Preventing and Responding to Violence Grants | Community Violence Interventions |
| | | 8 | Youth Services Grants | Other Public Health Services |
| | | 9 | Senior Services Grants | Other Public Health Services |
| | | 10 | Transportation Services Grants | Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers |
| Strategic County Priority | Allocation | Priority Rank | Key Focus Areas | ARPA Eligibility Category |
| Flex Funds | \$0,5 Million | N/A | To be allocated based on demand | To be determined |



**PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION
TIMELINE**

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <p>March 2023</p> | <p>Investment Plan Public Comment and Meetings</p> |
| <p>April 2023</p> | <p>Economic Development Funding Application Launches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Business Grants • Workforce Development Grants • Tourism, Arts, and Culture Grants • Blighted Property Demolition/Rehabilitation Grants |
| <p>May/June 2023</p> | <p>Economic Development Awards Announced</p> |
| <p>June 2023</p> | <p>Community Development & Public Health Application Launches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse & Telehealth Grants • Affordable Housing & Housing Support Grants • Community Improvement Capital Grants • Food Access Grants • Non-Profit Recovery Grants (Other) • Preventing and Responding to Violence Grants • Youth Services Grants • Senior Services Grants • Transportation Services Grants |
| <p>July/August 2023</p> | <p>Community Development & Public Health Application Awards</p> |



ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN DETAIL

Economic Recovery and Growth \$7.9 Million

Small Business Grants: Grants to help small businesses in the County recover and grow.

Workforce Development Grants: Grants to support development or expansion of workforce development programs in Albany County serving strategic industries including clean energy manufacturing, health care, nanotechnology, and advanced manufacturing.

On-the Job Training Fund: In partnership with the Capital Region Workforce Development Board, the County will provide additional funding to support expansion of on-the-job training and existing working training in Albany County.

Tourism, Arts, and Culture Grants: Grants to help tourism, arts, and cultural institutions recover from the impacts of COVID-19 or launch new initiatives to attract tourists to Albany County.

Blighted Property Demolition and Rehabilitation Grants: Grants to support the demolition or rehabilitation of commercial properties in qualified census tracts.

Commercial Property Demolition and Rehabilitation Grants: Grants to support the conversion of vacant or underutilized commercial office properties to other uses or to attract new out-of-County tenants to fill vacancies.

County Tourism and Economic Development Capacity: Funding for Discover Albany and the Advance Albany County Alliance to offset lost revenue, build capacity, and enhance their presence in the community in order to assist with economic recovery.



County Infrastructure and Workforce \$12.2 Million

Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure: Investments in County water infrastructure including wastewater, stormwater, and green infrastructure.

Broadband Infrastructure: Funding for standalone broadband expansion programs and/or funding to leverage against state and federal grant funding.

County IT Infrastructure: Funding for hardware/software needed to protect and prepare County IT infrastructure for increased stress on the system resulting from remote work, virtual meetings, telehealth, etc.

County Workforce Retention/Attraction: Funding to retain and/or attract workers to County service.

Effective Service Delivery Investments: Investments in technology, software, equipment, etc. to improve the delivery of County services.

County Public and Mental Health Initiatives: Core Public Health and Mental Health initiatives to address the impact of the pandemic, underlying conditions, and/or social determinants of health.

Parks and Open Space: Funding to improve County parks and open space to promote recreation in Albany County.



Community Development & Public Health \$8.8 Million

Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse, Telehealth Grants: Funding for programs or initiatives focused on behavioral health and/or substance abuse, including telehealth, that were exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Affordable Housing/ Housing Support Grants: Funding to address housing insecurity. Examples include increasing the supply of affordable housing, rent assistance, tiny housing, financial planning services, building improvements, and prevention programs.

Community Improvement Capital Grants: Capital grants to support community infrastructure. Examples include, but are not limited to, physical improvements to homeless shelters, parks and recreation facilities, etc.

Food Access Grants: Funding to increase food accessibility in Albany County (e.g. education and outreach, home delivery, and food assistance).

Preventing and Responding to Violence Grants: Funding to support community violence intervention/prevention programs.

Frontline Worker Support Program: A County-led program to support frontline workers most impacted by the pandemic including, but not limited to, health care, public health, emergency services, and long-term care workers.

Nonprofit Support Grants (Other): Competitive grants for nonprofit organizations impacted by COVID-19 that are not eligible under the other categories in this section.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY



Youth Services Grants: Funding for programs and initiatives focused specifically on youth. Examples include, but are not limited to after school programming and services for foster youth.

Senior Services Grants: Funding for programs and initiatives specifically targeted toward senior citizens in Albany County.

Transportation Services Grants: Funding for programs that address transportation challenges, including, but not limited to, health care, food access, and employment.

ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN DETAIL



PROVIDE FEEDBACK

There are three ways to provide feedback:

- 1 Complete our *NEW* Investment Plan Survey
- 2 Create a sample budget
- 3 Attend a public meeting



Hybrid Public Meeting Date 1

Date: March 21, 2023

Time: 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Where: Cahill Room

Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building
112 State Street
Albany NY 12207

Virtual: Details for virtual attendance will be made available on the County's ARPA Portal:

<https://albanycountyarpa.org>

Hybrid Public Meeting Date 2

Date: March 27, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Where: Cahill Room

Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building
112 State Street
Albany NY 12207

Virtual: Details for virtual attendance will be made available on the County's ARPA Portal:

<https://albanycountyarpa.org>

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

ALBANY COUNTY

Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building
112 State Street Albany, NY 12207
(518) 447-7000
<https://www.albanycounty.com/>
<https://albanycountyarpa.org>

HOW TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON THE ARPA INVESTMENT PLAN

1 Participate in a brief [NEW](#) ARPA Investment Plan Survey



OR VISIT:

<https://albanycountyarpa.org/newsurvey/>

2 Create and share your own ARPA budget



OR VISIT:

<https://albanycountyarpa.org/createbudget>

3 Attend a public meeting

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