

Oak Park's American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Progress Report

JANUARY 31, 2022

Village of Oak Park, Illinois



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Overview – What is ARPA Funding?

The federal American Rescue Plan Act – or ARPA – was signed into law on March 11, 2021. The \$1.9 trillion package included \$350 in emergency funding for state, local, territorial and Tribal governments. The Village of Oak Park’s allocation is \$38.9 million.

The local share of the federal program designated as *Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*, are intended to support urgent COVID-19 response efforts to decrease spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control, replace lost public sector revenue to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs, support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, and address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the inequitable impact of the pandemic on certain populations.

Eligible Uses

In general, funds may be used in these broad categories:



Support Public Health Response

Support public health expenditures by funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare and certain public health and safety staff



Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss

Replace lost public sector revenue to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic



Invest in Water, Sewer & Broadband Infrastructure

Invest in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and expand access to broadband internet



Address Negative Economic Impacts

Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, industries such as tourism, and the public sector



Provide Premium Pay for Essential Workers

Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors

Within these general categories, the Village will have broad flexibility to decide how to best use the Recovery Funds to meet the needs of our community.

ARPA funds must be “obligated” no later than December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026. Funds that are not fully spent by December 31, 2026 are required to be returned to the US Treasury.

The Village already received half of its entire Federal Treasury allocation of \$38,984,402 equaling \$19,492,201, and the other half should be received this Spring early Summer of 2022. The Treasury recently released its final ruling on spending these funds.

In short, the final ruling is very similar to the initial guidelines but offers a bit more flexibility for spending the ARPA funds, with the largest change pertaining to lost revenues. Now, rather than requiring communities to calculate annually lost revenues using the Treasury formula, they are allowing each community to take a standard allowance of up to \$10 million in lost revenue, without justifying the amount via a calculation. For the Village of Oak Park, this rule is not applicable as the Village’s lost revenues far exceed the \$10 million therefore it is to the Village’s benefit to submit the calculation.

The other major changes between the Treasury’s initial rules and final rules are as follows:

1. Recipients can use ARPA funds for capital expenditures that support all eligible COVID-19 public health or economic response. Examples include building affordable housing, childcare facilities, schools, hospitals, etc.
2. The final rule significantly broadens eligible broadband and water/sewer infrastructure investments, including a broader range of lead remediation and stormwater management projects.

Expenditure Categories for Reporting Purposes

Below is how the US Department of Treasury asks recipients to categorize eligible uses of funds during required reporting periods.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Appendix 1: Expenditure Categories

The Expenditure Categories (EC) listed below must be used to categorize each project as noted in Part 2 above. The term “Expenditure Category” refers to the detailed level (e.g., 1.1 COVID-10 Vaccination). When referred to as a category (e.g., EC 1) it includes all Expenditure Categories within that level.

1: Public Health	
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination ^
1.2	COVID-19 Testing ^
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.) *
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19
1.10	Mental Health Services*
1.11	Substance Use Services*
1.12	Other Public Health Services
2: Negative Economic Impacts	
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs* ^
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid* ^
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers* ^
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs* ^
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention* ^
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers*
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)* ^
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)* ^
2.10	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations*

2.11 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality
2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries
2.13 Other Economic Support* ^
2.14 Rehiring Public Sector Staff
3: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities
3.1 Education Assistance: Early Learning* ^
3.2 Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts ^
3.3 Education Assistance: Academic Services* ^
3.4 Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services* ^
3.5 Education Assistance: Other* ^
3.6 Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care* ^
3.7 Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting* ^
3.8 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System* ^
3.9 Healthy Childhood Environments: Other* ^
3.10 Housing Support: Affordable Housing* ^
3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons* ^
3.12 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance* ^
3.13 Social Determinants of Health: Other* ^
3.14 Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators* ^
3.15 Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation ^
3.16 Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions* ^
4: Premium Pay
4.1 Public Sector Employees
4.2 Private Sector: Grants to Other Employers
5: Infrastructure²⁴
5.1 Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment
5.2 Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance
5.3 Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater
5.4 Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows
5.5 Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure
5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater
5.7 Clean Water: Energy Conservation
5.8 Clean Water: Water Conservation
5.9 Clean Water: Nonpoint Source
5.10 Drinking water: Treatment
5.11 Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution
5.12 Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution: Lead Remediation
5.13 Drinking water: Source
5.14 Drinking water: Storage
5.15 Drinking water: Other water infrastructure
5.16 Broadband: "Last Mile" projects
5.17 Broadband: Other projects
6: Revenue Replacement

6.1	Provision of Government Services
7: Administrative	
7.1	Administrative Expenses
7.2	Evaluation and Data Analysis
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government
7.4	Transfers to Non-entitlement Units (States and territories only)

*Denotes areas where recipients must identify the amount of the total funds that are allocated to evidence-based interventions (see Use of Evidence section above for details)

^Denotes areas where recipients must report on whether projects are primarily serving disadvantaged communities (see Project Demographic Distribution section above for details)

²⁴ Definitions for water and sewer Expenditure Categories can be found in the EPA’s handbooks. For “clean water” expenditure category definitions, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/cwdefinitions.pdf>. For “drinking water” expenditure category definitions, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/dwsrf/drinking-water-state-revolving-fund-national-information-management-system-reports>.

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
Compliance and Reporting Guidance

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) ARPA Best Practices

Temporary Nature of ARPA Funds. ARPA funds are non-recurring so their use should be applied primarily to non-recurring expenditures.

- Care should be taken to avoid creating new programs or add-ons to existing programs that require an ongoing financial commitment.
- Use of ARPA funds to cover operating deficits caused by COVID-19 should be considered temporary and additional budget restraint may be necessary to achieve/maintain structural balance in future budgets.
- Investment in critical infrastructure is particularly well-suited use of ARPA funds because it is a non-recurring expenditure that can be targeted to strategically important long-term assets that provide benefits over many years. However, care should be taken to assess any on-going operating costs that may be associated with the project.

ARPA Scanning and Partnering Efforts. State and local jurisdictions should be aware of plans for ARPA funding throughout their communities.

- Local jurisdictions should be cognizant of state-level ARPA efforts, especially regarding infrastructure, potential enhancements of state funding resources, and existing or new state law requirements.
- Consider regional initiatives, including partnering with other ARPA recipients. It is possible there are many beneficiaries of ARPA funding within your community, such as schools, transportation agencies and local economic development authorities. Be sure to understand what they are planning and augment their efforts; alternatively, creating cooperative spending plans to enhance the structural financial condition of your community.

Take Time and Careful Consideration. ARPA funds will be issued in two tranches to local governments. Throughout the years of outlays, and until the end of calendar year 2024, consider how the funds may be used to address rescue efforts and lead to recovery.

- Use other dedicated grants and programs first whenever possible and save ARPA funds for priorities not eligible for other federal and state assistance programs.
- Whenever possible, expenditures related to the ARPA funding should be spread over the qualifying period (through December 31, 2024) to enhance budgetary and financial stability.

Adequate time should be taken to carefully consider all alternatives for the prudent use of ARPA funding prior to committing the resources to ensure the best use of the temporary funding.

Oak Park's First Distribution of Funds

On May 24, 2021 and again on July 6, 2021 the Village Board discussed immediate needs in the community that would require the first distribution of funds. Those categories were:

- Village unfunded COVID costs – i.e. replace lost revenue
- Supporting public health expenditures related to the pandemic, including vaccinations & education
- Services related to the pandemic, essential worker pay, food and rental assistance, local business emergency grants relief and assist individuals/households with a focus homelessness

Further on August 2 and August 30, 2021, the Village Board approved the first distribution of funds to support to the local food bank, homeless shelter, business community, health department staffing and lost revenues for FY20 and anticipate lost revenues for FY21.

On November 15, 2021, the Village Board approved \$10,000 for a holiday gift guide. This was a request from the business district virtual community input session regarding ARPA funds and was time sensitive to supporting business during the holiday season.

Later, on December 6, 2021 the Village Board approved additional funds for temporary staff support in the health department.

Most recently, on January 18, 2022, the Village Board approved funds to assist the business community with expenses related to enforcing the Oak Park vaccination requirement.

CARES Act Funds Distributed

A total of \$1,259,754 in CDBG CARES Act Funds was distributed in 2020 and 2021 as follows:

\$162,107 to 9 Public Service Agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19

- **\$85,000 to Beyond Hunger** to meet the nutrition needs of homebound, low-income seniors, people with disabilities, and those who are experiencing homelessness by providing them with groceries monthly.
- **\$6,000 to OPRF Infant Welfare Society Children's Clinic** for personal protective equipment to continue providing dental care to young low-income patients.
- **\$10,000 to Hephzibah** to purchase a significant supply of personal protective equipment, along with daily deep cleaning service to protect children and staff of Hephzibah Home.
- **\$20,000 to New Moms** for emergency supplies, transit, tech support and personal protective equipment for participants and staff, and facility cleaning, all for young moms and their children.
- **\$3,947 to Oak Leyden** to purchase technical equipment so that adults with disabilities can attend the day program, allow them to participate in on-line program activities and establish ways for them to stay connected with their families.
- **\$3,930 to Thrive** for operating costs (telephone and computer expenses) to assist persons with existing mental illnesses and low incomes.
- **\$15,974 to UCP Seguin** for emergency supplies, personal protective equipment, materials, other equipment, and meals to assist persons with disabilities.
- **\$7,256 to Way Back Inn** for personnel costs and to purchase cleaning-related supplies to help maintain the safety of their residential clients and staff who live and work in their Oak Park recovery home and treatment facility.
- **\$10,000 to West Cook YMCA** for deep cleaning services at the West Cook YMCA single room occupancy building that houses low-income persons.

\$147,647 to Village of Oak Park for Administration and Project Implementation of the Village of Oak Park CDBG-CV Program, which includes oversight and management of the entire program.

\$400,000 to Housing Forward to provide rental, mortgage and utility assistance to individuals and families directly affected by the COVID-19 crisis, to prevent homelessness and support housing stability.

\$550,000 to Village of Oak Park's Business Assistance Loan Program, which provides assistance to small Oak Park businesses that have been negatively affected by COVID-19, in order to retain low to moderate income jobs.

Program Year 2021 CDBG Subrecipients

The following is a summary of additional services to the community that are funded through the Village's entitlement from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. (Program Year 2021: Oct 2021-Sep 2022)

Beyond Hunger \$22,000 - Beyond Hunger is the OPRF Food Pantry. Its mission is to work together as a community to reduce hunger locally through direct hunger relief services and hunger awareness education. Service offerings seek to provide the food, resources, knowledge, and skills people need to live healthy, active lives.

Community Support Services \$8,111 - Community Support Services initiates, provides and promotes services for people with intellectual/developmental and their families.

Hephzibah Children's Association \$17,000 - Hephzibah's work — including group homes for neglected and abused children, comprehensive services for children and families in crisis, foster care, adoption and day care — enhances the safety and well-being of children while preserving the dignity of parents and families.

Housing Forward \$61,000 - Housing Forward provides a comprehensive solution to impacting homelessness and housing instability. Housing Forward's mission is to transition people from housing crisis to housing stability. Using best practices of Prevention/Diversion, Trauma-Informed Care and a Housing First Approach impacts the lives of 2000 adults and families with minor children each year.

NAMI Metro Suburban \$11,000 - NAMI Metro Suburban is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals, families and communities affected by mental illness by providing free peer recovery model support, mental health education and advocacy through the western suburbs of Cook County.

New Moms, Inc. \$17,000 - New Moms is changing the future for young moms experiencing poverty and homelessness in Chicagoland by offering housing, job training, and family support.

North West Housing Partnership \$6,125 - North West Housing Partnership promotes public and private partnerships that create and preserve cost-effective quality housing for low to moderate-income residents and workers through housing development and renovation, education, and advocacy.

Oak Park Regional Housing Center \$122,500 – The OPRHC provides rental counseling to community residents and rental referrals to apartments that are listed with the agency. Oak Park Regional Housing Center is a HUD approved agency, that provides individual and group pre- and post-

foreclosure education and counseling, financial education and counseling, and fair housing education. OPRHC serves 3,500 clients annually. The target populations are low-income Black and Latinx, in the Maywood, Forest Park, Berwyn, Cicero, River Forest, Bellwood, and Broadview areas. OPRHC disseminates COVID-19 information through outreach that includes, email, community events, monthly workshops, local businesses, and social media platforms.

Oak Park-River Forest Infant Welfare Society Children's Clinic \$21,500 - The Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society is a diverse member-driven organization with an abiding commitment to assuring the health and well-being of children. Through the IWS Children's Clinic, the Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society provides the highest quality medical, dental, and behavioral health to those who are unable to afford the cost of private care.

Sarah's Inn \$12,000 - Sarah's Inn is a local domestic violence agency working to improve the lives of those affected by domestic violence and to break the cycle of violence for future generations. Our services and initiatives focus on ending relationship violence through domestic violence crisis intervention, community education, and violence prevention programs for youth. care.

Thrive Counseling Center \$18,631 - Thrive Counseling Center is a comprehensive mental health center in Oak Park, Illinois. Thrive Counseling Center works to alleviate suffering and empower individuals and families to live healthier and more hopeful lives through a range of professional mental health and community prevention services.

UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago \$33,000 - United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago is a charitable not-for-profit organization serving individuals with disabilities. UCP Seguin believes that all people, regardless of ability, deserve to achieve their potential, advance their independence and act as full members of the community. So we stop at nothing to provide life skills training, assistive technology, meaningful employment and a place to call home for people with disabilities, as well as specialized foster care for children.

Way Back Inn \$11,424 - The Way Back Inn, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization established in 1974 with the purpose to rebuild lives damaged by substance and gambling use disorders in a personalized healing environment. The Way Back Inn is committed to serving men and women in the greater Chicago land area, including those with limited access to treatment. We provide clinical services to men and women recovering from substance abuse as well as those dually diagnosed. We offer physical, mental and spiritual support in a structured home environment.

Summary of Oak Park's First Distribution

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the local economy. To address this the Village of Oak Park has allocated funds to support economic recovery.

Lost Revenue **\$18,757,803**

Expenditure Category 6: Revenue Replacement

Subcategory 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Recipients of Coronavirus State and local Fiscal Recovery funds may use payments for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

In order to calculate lost revenue, and in lieu of taking the \$10 million standard allowance (covering all four years) per the final rules, the Village is allowed to compound its base year revenue (2019) by 5.2% through the end of 2023. When this compounded revenue for each year is then compared to actual revenue (for 2020 and 2021) or forecasted revenue (for 2022 and 2023), it results in an estimated combined amount of over \$45.7 million of lost revenue for the General and Parking Funds. This is possible since the pre-pandemic base year 2019 already started with a higher revenue amount than the post pandemic years which followed and with the 5.2% compounded effect, the lost revenue is expected to be further enhanced for years 2022 and 2023.

As an example, the base 2019 General Fund revenue was \$63.7 million. Adding 5.2% to this for 2020 resulted in \$67 million. Compared to actual revenue for 2020 of \$60.9 million, the result was almost \$6.1 million of lost GF revenue for that year alone. This calculation is then repeated for another three years, and this calculation also includes the Parking Fund which was severely negatively impacted by the pandemic.

The lost revenue calculations and forecasts were calculated as follows:

	Total	General	Parking
Lost Revenue			
Year 1 (12/31/20)	9,739,046	6,246,170	3,492,876
Year 2 (12/31/21 estimated)	9,018,757	6,070,612	2,948,145
Year 3 (12/31/22 estimated)	12,026,894	8,768,836	3,258,058
Year 4 (12/31/23 estimated)	14,881,265	11,316,310	3,564,955
Total Lost Revenue	45,665,962	32,401,927	13,264,034
Total ARP Allocated to Village	38,984,402		
Remaining ARP for Expenses	(6,681,560)		

On August 2, 2021, the Village Board approved ORD 21-42, an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Budget in an amount of \$1,340,000 for expenditures to add additional staff (Environmental Health Supervisor and a Health Education Manager), to address current public health service levels for residents. The positions will be recruited with the condition that they are funded through 2026. Future continuation of the positions would be evaluated during the FY 27 budget discussions. This is funded from the lost revenue calculations.

In addition, \$4 million was directed to the FY2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Resolution 21-166 Beyond Hunger Grant **\$85,000**

Expenditure Category 2: Negative Economic Impacts

Subcategory 2.1 Household Assistance: Food Programs

Beyond Hunger's food pantry provides access to healthy nutritious food to anyone in need, in a grocery store-like environment.

On August 30, 2021, the Village Board approved RES 21-166, A Resolution Approving a Funding Grant Agreement Between the Village of Oak Park and Beyond Hunger in an Amount Not to Exceed \$85,000 and Authorizing its Execution. This grant funding will be used by Beyond Hunger to offset the costs (approximately 9%) of providing low-income Oak Park residents with critical COVID-19 response services to enhance food security. Funding will cover staffing, volunteer costs, supplies, food, printing, and indirect costs such as rent and electricity. \$42,500 is anticipated to be paid out in 2021, with the remaining \$42,500 budgeted in 2022.

Resolution 21-168 Housing Forward Grant **\$500,000**

Expenditure Category 3: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Subcategory 3.11 Household Assistance: Services for Unhoused Persons

Housing Forward addresses the needs of homeless persons by providing emergency shelter, temporary shelter and interim housing.

On August 30, 2021, the Village Board approved RES 21-168, A Resolution Approving a Funding Grant Agreement Between the Village of Oak Park and Housing Forward in an Amount Not to Exceed \$500,000 and Authorizing its Execution. Housing Forward will use this grant funding to provide a combination of direct assistance for food, rent, and security assistance for individuals and families leaving homelessness and will also use the funds to prevent eviction. Additional direct assistance will

be used for transitional wages for those enrolled in Housing Forward's Career Passport job training program. Housing Forward also proposes to use ARPA funds to provide needed case management and life skill services to improve housing stability for 33 individuals who are currently homeless with a documented disability and who received a mainstream housing choice voucher through the Oak Park Housing Authority. \$250,000 is anticipated to be paid out in 2021, with the remaining \$250,000 budgeted in 2022.

Resolution 21-180 OP Business Recovery & Non-Profit PPE Grants **\$550,000**

Expenditure Category 2: Negative Economic Impacts

On August 30, 2021, the Village Board approved RES 21-180, A Resolution Authorizing the Creation of an Oak Park Business and Non-Profit Coronavirus Recovery (BNPCR) Grant Program Using American Rescue Plan Act Funding in an Amount Not to Exceed \$550,000 and Approving Guidelines for the Program. The proposed Oak Park Business and Non-Profit Coronavirus Recovery (BNPCR) Grant Program will seek to assist small businesses and non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations as they recover from the financial hardship resulting from the Covid-19 public health emergency.

Subcategory 2.10 Aid to Non-Profit Organizations

\$100,000 of this funding is earmarked be used for reimbursement of costs incurred by non-profits for the purchase of PPE and safety equipment installation related to the COVID-19 public health emergency. \$75,000 of the \$100,000 is anticipated to be paid out in 2021, with the remaining \$25,000 budgeted in 2022.

Subcategory 2.9 Small Business Economic Assistance (General)

\$150,000 of this funding is earmarked be used to assist small, licensed Oak Park businesses by reimbursing said businesses for costs related to PPE and safety equipment installation expenses that they have incurred since March 2020. \$112,500 of the \$150,000 is anticipated to be paid out in 2021, with the remaining \$37,500 budgeted in 2022.

\$300,000 of this funding is earmarked be used to assist small, licensed Oak Park businesses in paying off past-due rent or mortgage payments. \$225,000 of the \$300,000 is anticipated to be paid out in 2021, with the remaining \$75,000 budgeted in 2022.

Resolution 21-292 OP Holiday Gift Guide Assistance **\$10,000****Expenditure Category 2: Negative Economic Impacts****Subcategory 2.9 Small Business Economic Assistance (General)**

On November 15, 2021, the Village Board approved RES 21-292, A resolution approving a professional services agreement with the Oak-Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce to create a 2021 Holiday Gift Guide for the benefit of the Oak Park business community in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 and authorizing its execution. In 2021, as part of the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) listening sessions, businesses indicated that the Holiday Gift guide would be an important marketing tool this coming holiday season.

Resolution 21-320 Nursing Services Agreement **\$40,000****Expenditure Category 1: Public Health****Subcategory 1.9 Payroll Costs for Public Health**

On December 6, 2021, the Village Board approved RES 21-320, A resolution approving a nursing services agreement with Cassidy Olson, R.N., in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 and authorizing its execution and approval of \$40,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds for the position. This position is a temporary nurse position for a one-year period to assist the Oak Park Public Health Department primarily with vaccinations as requested, in particular on weekends. The Village's other nurses hired during COVID primarily work weekdays and evenings.

Resolution 21-325 Funding for Two CDC Public Health Fellows **\$12,000****Expenditure Category 1: Public Health****Subcategory 1.12 Other Public Health Services**

On December 6, 2021, the Village Board approved RES 21-325, A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a New Grant Application for the Illinois Department of Public Health Cooperative Public Health Grant for Emergency Response in an Amount Not to Exceed \$115,678 and Authorizing Submission of a New Grant Application for Two Fellow Positions from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) and the Use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds in an Amount not to Exceed \$12,000 for the Positions and Approval of Subsequent Agreements and Authorizing their Execution. The Health Department seeks approval to apply for grants for the following three new temporary positions: one (1) temporary 1-year epidemiologist that is primarily focused on COVID-19 and two (2) public health Fellows. The epidemiologist is funded by the Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response position through the IDPH and the fellows are funded through the CDC and CSTE. The Fellows

application requires an additional \$12,000. Staff is requesting \$12,000 in ARPA funds if the Village is selected as a fellow recipient.

Resolution 21-324 Fund Portion of Nurses Salaries **\$34,000**

Expenditure Category 1: Public Health

Subcategory 1.9 Payroll Costs for Public Health

On December 6, 2021, the Village Board approved RES 21-324, A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of Annual Public Health Grants Applications with the Community Development Block Grant, the Cook County Department of Public Health, the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago, and the Shawnaish Institute with an Anticipated Total Funding Amount of \$1,048,545 and Approval of Subsequent Agreements, Including \$34,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for Fiscal Year 2022 for a Portion of Nurses' Salaries, and Authorizing their Execution Annually, the Health Department seeks approval for the various grant funding applications it intends to seek in order to offset a portion of the total cost of providing public health services in Oak Park. Attached is a listing and overview of 14 grants being sought. In addition, the Village continues to receive grants funds to support the Public Health Department for COVID-19. These COVID-19 grants include the 2 FTE equivalent positions to continue in FY22 of which \$34,000 in ARPA funds are needed in addition to the grants.

Resolution 22-26 Vaccination Card Requirement – Continued Business

Assistance Grant Program **\$150,000**

Expenditure Category 2: Negative Economic Impacts

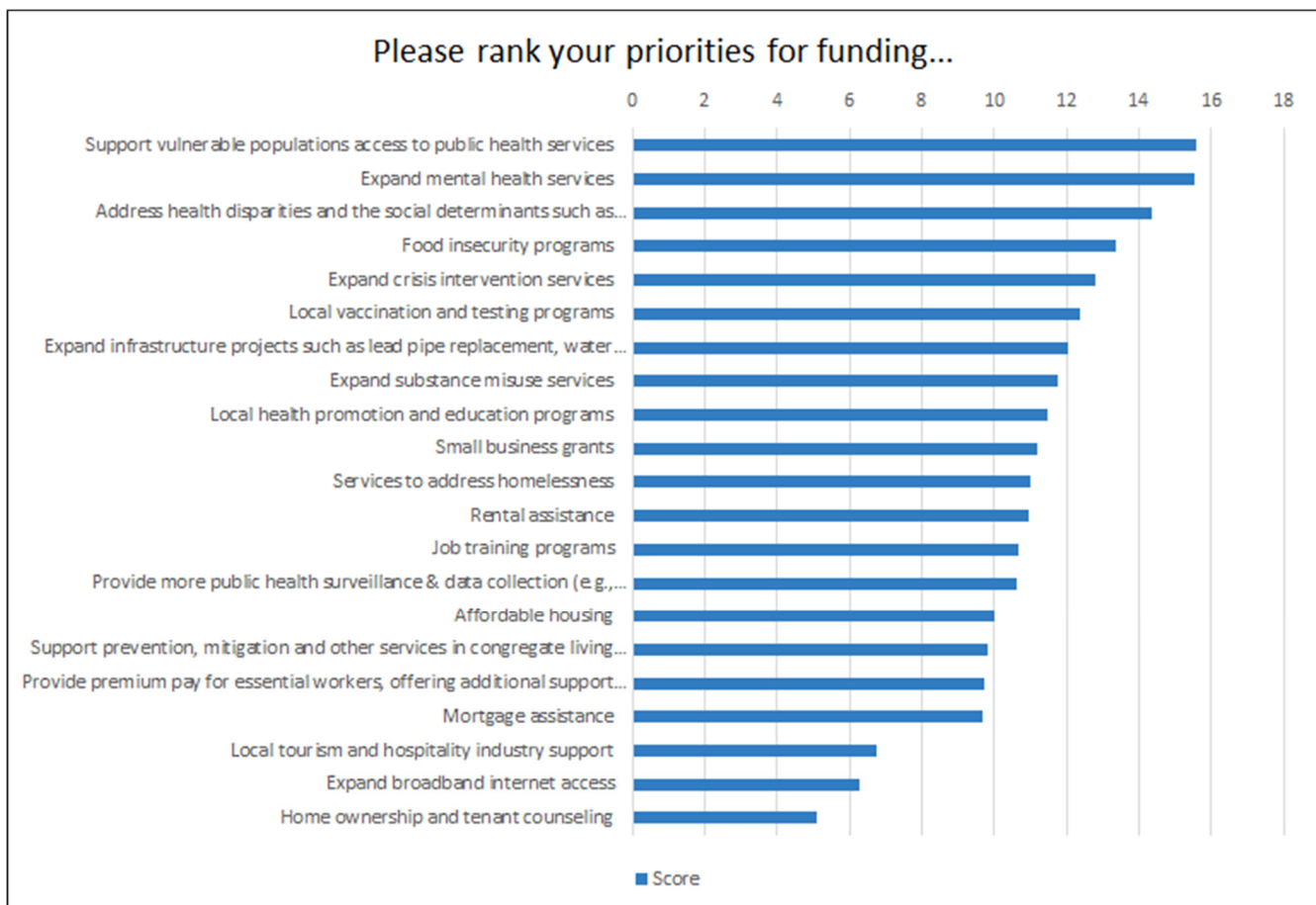
Subcategory 2.9 Small Business Economic Assistance (General)

On January 18, 2022 the Village Board approved RES 22-26, A Resolution Authorizing the Creation of an Oak Park Vaccination Requirement Order - Continued Business Assistance Grant Program and request the use of American Rescue Plan Act Funding in an Amount Not to Exceed \$150,000 and Approving Guidelines for the Program. The Village is committed to assisting Oak Park businesses as we move through the Covid-19 emergency. In addition to the previously approved and implemented business assistance grant programs, the Village is seeking to assist food sales/foodservice and restaurant businesses who are subject to the Village's December 30, 2021 Covid-19 Public Health Proof of Vaccination in Public Spaces order, in defraying expenses related to enforcing said order. The proposed Oak Park Vaccination Requirement Order - Continued Assistance Business Grant Program will make \$1,000 of American Rescue Plan Act resources available to each Oak Park licensed business subject to the new health order.

Community Engagement

Community input is essential to assessing Village needs and exploring how funding can best be aligned with local priorities. To ensure the equitable, transparent and accountable distribution of these funds, in September residents were invited to take a survey, attend three virtual listening sessions and/or email comments to the Village.

Survey Results



Survey Results

The following table shows the ranking of funding priorities of 328 respondents to the survey.

American Rescue Plan Act Funding Allocations Results 11/01/21		
Answer Choices	Score	Funding Category/Objective
Answered	328.00	
Support vulnerable populations access to public health services	15.59	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Expand mental health services	15.52	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Address health disparities and the social determinants such as remediation of lead hazards, community violence intervention, recidivism reduction programs and restorative justice programs	14.37	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Food insecurity programs	13.38	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Expand crisis intervention services	12.80	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Local vaccination and testing programs	12.35	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Expand infrastructure projects such as lead pipe replacement, water conservation projects, maintaining water and sewer facilities, including systems to mitigate flooding	12.02	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
Expand substance misuse services	11.76	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Local health promotion and education programs	11.46	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Small business grants	11.19	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Services to address homelessness	11.00	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Rental assistance	10.97	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Job training programs	10.66	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Provide more public health surveillance & data collection (e.g., monitoring for variants)	10.61	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Affordable housing	9.99	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Support prevention, mitigation and other services in congregate living facilities	9.81	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their roles in critical infrastructure sectors with a focus on low income workers	9.73	Provide Premium Pay for Essential Workers
Mortgage assistance	9.68	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Local tourism and hospitality industry support	6.73	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Expand broadband internet access	6.27	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
Home ownership and tenant counseling	5.12	Address Negative Economic Impacts

The following is a summary of comments and suggestions received from residents via email and listening sessions:

American Rescue Plan 10/05/21 and 10/06/21 AM Listening Sessions	
Description	Funding Category/Objective
I am sitting in to get more information for daycare providers and the early childhood community in Oak Park. What is the time frame for allocation of funds and timing for when the earliest funds would be available?	
I believe this is an extremely important topic, and am curious about how the village is reaching out to community members and community groups to get the word out about this community engagement process outside of your normal activities, website postings, etc. I am concerned that I am just now hearing about this.	
As the questions get asked and answered is there a recording of these sessions so community members can see what they have missed? Might be good to have a screen showing some of the questions being asked and answered.	
How much money does OP have in this pot? What are the total funds?	
I am a concerned resident of the Village of Oak Park. A lot of people were missed on the communication, Black residents of Oak Park organizations. This communication did not come out. I just happened to be on the Oak Park web page. How are you reaching out to the Black residents of Oak Park? There are three or four different groups of residents in OP that would have had a lot of questions about how these funds will be allocated. I'm sure they would have had a lot of questions about this fund. This fund is the American Rescue Fund. There should be no doubt about where this money should go. There are no other people who have been hurt the most whenever people need to be rescued. Whenever there is a pandemic, drugdemic, epidemic, the black humans are hurt the most. The question should be who is being hurt the most with this and with COVID who is being hurt the most? The Black community needs more education, a lot of black people are refusing to take the COVID vaccine. There was a Tuskegee experiment where syphilis was shot into Black people. There needs to be more education about the vaccinations. Need to be a reeducation about being vaccinated. Black people are apprehensive about being shot in the arm by a white person. Need to be more insightful about what we are actually doing with the funds. We don't want to see the money going to more white organizations that have already been rescued. Need to reach out more to our Black communities about this discussion, and at the top of the list is who needs money the most?	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities and Support Public Health Response
I can provide you with information on some of these Black organizations, I can give you the contact information. There is also a Facebook page I can share with you. Will link you to this information.	
Could you elaborate on what the Board has already approved? What is the lost revenue? Is it lost tax base?	
Just here to listen to the community	
Are you looking for ideas? Can you share some of the ideas that have already been provided or were provided last night?	

American Rescue Plan -10/27/21 Listening Session	
Description	Funding Category/Objective
There are existing programs for broadband infrastructure, etc. Will there be a list of priorities, to avoid duplication of state and federal programs already funding broadband, so we can focus on local needs not already covered by these existing programs?	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
Do we have time to think about more medium or long term solutions? How much urgency is there? Need to be strategic to support long term solutions for businesses.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Small businesses have had to make significant investments and upgrades to ecommerce, online ordering and corresponding accounting and bookkeeping to support the ecommerce. Some businesses have gone from 100% in-person to 100% online ordering. Businesses have also had to hire additional staff to handle in-person and online ordering. Chicago is introducing an outdoor dining grant for outdoor staff, tables, chairs, landscaping and heaters. Need funding assistance for employee turnover and retention. Employees have had to leave the workforce due to COVID related childcare issues, COVID safety concerns and vaccination requirements. Businesses are also having to educate employees and potential employees regarding COVID vaccinations. May need information in two languages.	Address Negative Economic Impacts and Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Perhaps we can provide a summary sheet from the OPHD for COVID education in two languages.	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
The online licensing and permitting process for businesses has been difficult to maneuver. Can it be streamlined and the process sped up? Did not provide specifics. Some businesses owners are hesitant to provide information due to fear of retaliation or damaging their relationship with the VOP. Some owners feel the village is out to get them and not enable them. While this may not be the case, the perception exists.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Looking at the future, can we add programs to offset costs of doing business in OP, expanding accessibility to broadband, better services, retention and attracting new businesses to OP?	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
It has been difficult to attract and retain staff. Most new hires are coming from the city. Can we receive funds or reimbursement for parking and public transportation. Provide a travel stipend to for businesses to pass to employees to make it more competitive to retain hardworking people? Immediate need is staffing.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
We already have a parking discount program for employees who park in village garages. Instead of a discount, can the village provide a free parking pass and public transportation pass for employees? When employees park in garages using the discount, if they work all day, the cost goes from \$3 per day to \$15 per day. Use stickers or passes to display for late shift workers. Get creative with parking options.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Need support of marketing funds to boost businesses. With the winter weather coming, businesses need additional digital and traditional marketing to draw customers.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Market what the local Health Department can do for the businesses. What is in it for the businesses and community at large? Vaccine education resources to help educate staff. One less thing for businesses to worry about.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Restaurants are losing revenue and profits to Uber Eats, Grubhub, etc., and increasing supply and staffing costs. Owners are exhausted from pivoting and navigating through the pandemic.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Supply chain disruption and supply price inflation.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
What can the village do to support businesses? Customer service orientation of the Village staff (work with the businesses to make them successful and not just enforce the process, policy and procedures).	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Health Inspections: Inspection delays, Contractor vs. Village employees (value in building relationships), Clarify and educate regarding the inspection process.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Streamline siloed approach between village departments. Particularly evident with the permitting process (planning, impact assessment and visibility/communication inconsistent), building construction permits, street and sidewalk repair/construction, liquor permit, filming permits.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Consistent use of systems (technology and data) at the Village to enable effective service. Apparently a lot of the processes are still manual and paper based, causing delays and making it people dependent.	Address Negative Economic Impacts

American Rescue Plan - ARPA Email Comments Description	Funding Category/Objective
Oak Park government, school and library buildings should be outfitted with Urban SafeAir (provided by Urban Pioneer Society) to purify indoor air and neutralize viruses.	Support Public Health Response (COVID-19)
Hire reparations project manager, create reparations commission, conduct outreach to black community to educate regarding COVID vaccine, create "dialogue of trust" between different races, give stipends for vaccinations, increase black contractors and hiring of black employees.	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities and Support Public Health Response
Enhance the sewer system in NE Oak Park. The NE residents continue to have sewer backup and flooding in basements after heavy rains.	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
Help fund board goals for the year, and offset revenue losses resulting from the pandemic.	Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss
Allocate funds to Reparations Task Force, to help represent Oak Park's effort and commitment towards diversity and social justice.	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities and Address Negative Economic Impacts
Set aside a portion of funds for reparations to align with the Village Board's goals for 2022. Setting aside funds now will make it easier to begin implementing programs and policies right away.	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities and Address Negative Economic Impacts
Allocate a large amount of money to businesses in the village, to help established businesses and attract new business to the village. Oak Park is not business friendly, with high taxes and restrictive regulations. The lack of business tax income leads to the tax burden falling on residents. As a result, young families are moving to more affordable communities.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
Thousands of Oak Parkers found themselves wading in their basements after heavy rainfall. For many of us, this is a constant. The areas that experience the most intense flooding are the last remaining neighborhoods in Oak Park that can be called affordable. This is an affordable housing issue. We are asking that you make sure that stormwater infrastructure upgrades are among the Village's investment priorities. This would be the beginning of a climate justice strategy. We look forward to a dialogue with the Village Board focused on public infrastructure investment, not cost sharing half measures.	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
Our sewer system is in dire need of an upgrade, particularly in NEOP. I suggest we use the federal covid funds to fix the major structural problems we have.	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
I would like to express my thoughts on the 40M in funds that Oak Park has received. The system is atrocious, and I know more people who live here who get an annual dump of sewage in their basement than do not. The constant overflowing sewer system has cost individual homeowners and landlords tons of money. My basement repairs have cost over \$10,000 and I've lived in my home for not even 3 years. It is unsanitary, ridiculous and our residents deserve better. The sewer system is not keeping up with the community and needs to change now.	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
In response to ARPA allocations, replacing the lead water lines is my vote.	Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
The ARPA funds provide a unique opportunity for the village to finance needs within the community that otherwise would go unfunded. One request for funds, the second item in the attached document, represents a want rather than an actual need: the PDOP's request for \$2 million for its Capital Improvement Plan, specifically to "support program access and expanded facilities", also known as its Community Recreation Center (CRC), a major capital project that it declines to put to referendum for funding approval. If one removes the CRC from the plan, its funding largely covers the planned expenditures through 2025. The PDOP says it needs the money because it suffered severe economic impacts due to the pandemic, yet it ended 2020 on a positive note with an increase in net position of \$3.1 million. As of May 2021, the PDOP had \$16.3 million in total cash available to the District (fund balances) according to its audit. It appears the PDOP does not need the ARPA funding, and the financial position of the PDOP remains strong.	Address Negative Economic Impacts
I believe that if possible Oak Park should spend ARPA funds on lead paint abatement in homes. Lead paint is a major health hazard in homes with small children and with such an old housing stock in Oak Park there are likely many homes where this is a problem. For instance old windows with lead paint are one of the primary sources of lead dust in homes but it can be prohibitively costly to replace these windows without some financial assistance. I suggest creating a small grant for homeowners and landlords to address lead health hazards in homes.	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities and Water and Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure
Good Afternoon. I hope this finds you both well. I just wanted to follow up on our pending application for support under the ARPA. As Covid has been surging once again, our revenue picture is continuing to be significantly impacted. Due to our group home being on outbreak status, we are not allowed to accept any children into the home - our DTC currently has 8 beds filled out of 16. In daycare, we are consistently plagued with program closures at several of our sites due to exposures and the district's adaptive pauses shut down our program completely. Unfortunately, the deficit these two programs continue to experience has grown month by month, particularly as the surge lingers on.	Address Negative Economic Impacts

Our survey on the Village website asked residents to add any other funding they wish to be considered. The following is a list of responses:

1	Provide more accessible and equitable education and career opportunities for people with disabilities. Including but not limited to remote options.
2	Please provide accessible, equitable, appropriate, inclusive education for multi-marginalized/Disabled/Chronically-ill students, through remote options, but not limited to. Also, hire Disabled/Chronically-ill People, paying them a fair/living wage.
3	Child care support
4	Support our early childhood workforce by prioritizing their health and wellness and compensation.
5	support our early childhood workforce
6	Public restrooms
7	Help for disabled to pay bills
8	Child Care Support!
9	Reparations
10	Village tax
11	Early childhood education
12	Early childhood initiatives and enrichment including childcare. leverage ARPA funding in support of early childhood success, creating more opportunities for local children and families to thrive.
13	Reduce taxes
14	Pay teachers more
15	Anything that lowers property taxes
16	Schools. Reduce class sizes.
17	Stimulus checks for local residents
18	Let's take away the Board of Health position that has more power over the governing body the Cook County Board of Health. Oak Park is suppose to be built on equity but they think they are better than the IDPH? This role should focus on getting the homeless off the streets, and kids back in school. Instead she is creating strict rules for small business owners to follow that are outrageous when the covid 19 rate is at 2.5% in Illinois. A business owner should not have to call the police on someone without a mask on or endure a fine. How can we run a business in Oak Park when we have such extreme ideology in the department. Get rid of the mask mandate, the felony charge and respect business owners so they can start making money again.
19	Top priorities >> Direct payments to families, small biz support
20	Provide the tax breaks & incentives given to non-tax paying operations to tax paying businesses.
21	Flood assistance and mitigation especially for north east OP

22	Expand investment in Police, anti-crime & public safety!
23	Supporting small businesses especially restaurants that are facing supply issues and staffing issues.
24	Provide regular (at least twice weekly, daily better) rapid testing in schools, testing to enter public events.
25	avoid property tax increases
26	Dividends
27	Stabilizing tax rate for current homeowners. Or, Decrease water/waste management costs
28	Public safety
29	Increase police and fire staffing levels
30	Support wage increases for childcare workers
31	Children's health
32	landscaping and noise control along south side of I290 expressway.
33	Additional police presence to address increase in local crime
34	utility assistance, reduced parking fees, parking ticket forgiveness
35	If possible, renew plan to cap the Ike
36	Reparations, by way of grant funding for BLACK first time home owners purchasing a home in Oak Park.
37	Childcare and early childhood programs to help working parents.
38	Support our early childhood workforce + child care centers as part of small business owners
39	Senior services expansion like new safe transportation for field trips
40	Priorities IMO: Mental Health, Infrastructure, Crime. Keep it simple or risk falling further behind. No excuse for lead pipes in 2021.
41	Shortfall of Village revenue because of pandemic.
42	Guaranteed income- direct cash payment to lowest income residents
43	I would consider enhancing the public transportation infrastructure in Oak Park and assisting faith-based organizations with funds to help them in providing social services, like using food stamps at the Farmers' Market.
44	Rebate checks to oak park residents
45	Other infrastructure
46	Assessment of pay for teachers, educators, child care services, park district workers, village workers, service workers and equitable pay adjustment..
47	sustainability
	Develop a "Circular Plan" that will include every thing in our village. First inclusion is the health of the environment in all decisions not just "development" plans - not just destruction and construction but methods of doing all the work that is done in Oak Park and all the "plans" that are made. And a key component is to include all the residents in any decisions made by elected officials..

48	Small businesses
49	public safety -
50	Property Tax relief
51	Mortgage Assistance
52	Alternative health ideas beyond vaccines such as Vitamin D, diet, natural health and wellness
53	youth services
54	Services for senior citizens
55	Creating more outdoor spaces for restaurants & community organizations
56	Additional pay for Early Childhood teachers to retain quality teachers
57	Grants to NFP
58	Focus on the basics, fix our roads, alleys, sewers, water mains/lines and provide sufficient police / fire to protect us and our property.
59	Schools
60	Tax the new high rise buildings at a higher rate.
61	unknown.
62	Lower taxes
63	Affordable transportation for disabled or elderly
64	International students in all levels of school in the area that need financial assistance with housing and tuition.
65	jobs
66	Youth mental health counseling
67	Support for Child Care for kids who live in Oak Park
68	Science education, misinformation mitigation
69	Tutoring for students who unable to afford or commute local tutoring centers.
70	Tax rebates to oak park families paying property taxes
71	Fix northeast oak park sewers so basements don't continue to flood when it storms
72	Decreasing Black maternal mortality
73	Homeowner tax relief
74	Sewers
75	Public Health, Vaccination
76	anti-racism work
77	Improving Madison Ave
78	senior tax reduction or subsidy to help seniors stay in oak park
79	Costs to help local businesses survive
80	investment to increase public transportation options and address safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists across our streets

81	All are worthy. Hard to create a hierarchy of needs.
82	School quarantine facilities
83	Housing assistance (grants)
84	Support for schools and childcare for testing frequency to keep kids in school and parents supported.
85	Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss
86	Early Childhood Education/Child care support
87	Public Health infrastructure
88	No new category- but that a racial equity lens be used on all the above categories
89	We do not need more police funding.
90	Assistance for first time minority home buyers
91	Funding for fixing homes damaged by OP's seemingly consistent flooding issues
92	Early Childhood Education support
93	I would like to see funding allocated to checking the overall well being of the families and residents directly impacted by Covid. Those that have lost loved ones to see how they are fairing during these unpredictable and challenging times. In some cases these were the principal earners in the families and the impact could be tremendous. I would also like to memorialize those citizens that were lost through park benches as a tribute. Perhaps a bench with a plaque or a tree in their honor. Establish a registry that list the names of residents that were delayed with receiving the vaccination, provide followup assistance if such an outbreak should ever occur that requires mass vaccination. To ensure their concerns are addressed. In some cases they are those who would remain silent if not asked. It would be nice to address the topic of equity as it relates to the village.
94	Trees and nature
95	Help for seniors living alone
96	Police Department support
97	Childcare funding to families who need support while their children are in quarantine. Also, actively supporting the creation of more childcare options in Oak Park.
98	Violence prevention
99	Other Infrastructure (where permitted by law)
100	Anything related to climate change mitigation should be the top priority.
101	Higher wage for childcare workers
102	Crime mitigation

	Address educational disparity caused by disrupted/finished school
103	services
104	Reduce property taxes and use the money to pay for village services
105	Specifically flooding in NE Oak Park
106	Provide more outdoor learning/dining spaces for schools for social distancing
107	Property tax reduction for homeowners
108	Public transportation including bicycling improvements
109	Epilepsy treatment and education
110	Police an rising crime in Oak Park
111	Flood prevention and environmental issues
112	early childhood providers - probably fall under essentional workers, but just to call thme out.
113	Support for teens including internship opportunities, after school programs, social groups, etc. Increased mental health support directed at tweens/teens. Reduction of taxes for those who might be financially hurting due to the pandemic and if possible, reduction of taxes for all residents. Support restaurants and shops in Oak Park that have suffered greatly due to the pandemic.
114	Arts are an engine for economic growth. Support the local arts community, please.
115	Reduce real estate taxes
116	Provide support for early learning care providers
117	More Bike lanes
118	decrease congestion on roadways, increased infrastructure to support walking and biking, look into restoring trolley service
119	New local business start up assistance
120	School Improvements/Joint B.I.D. efforts with neighboring Austin area

Specific ARPA Requests from The Community

The following organizations have submitted requests or proposals for ARPA funds.

Park District of Oak Park **\$2,000,000**

The Park District of Oak Park respectfully requests \$2M to help support our agency's efforts to continue to support program access and expanded facilities that address the needs of our community's youth, teen, adult and senior populations. The amount of \$2M is equal to the amount of funding that the Park District of Oak Park was not able to add to our CIP in 2020 due to the huge drop in revenue from the pandemic. The funds would be requested for distribution in calendar year 2022.

We believe that the Community Recreation Center project falls directly into three VOP goal areas:

- Equity – Offering free after school programs for all 6-12 grades and the free walking track for all Oak Park residents, which also provide access to healthy lifestyles.
- Economic Development – Bringing development to the Eastside of Madison and helps to develop the Madison Street Corridor
- Sustainability – The building is being built as a net-zero energy facility

Staff Comment: Staff recommends that should the Village Board desire to contribute the requested (or modified) amount, that this come out of General Fund lost revenue from FY2020. This would add a much greater level of assurance that the US Treasury would accept this as an eligible expense.

Oak Park Tourism Recovery Initiative **\$765,000**

A Joint Proposal for ARPA Funding. The COVID-19 pandemic has been the biggest crisis to hit the tourism and hospitality industry in our lifetime. 2020 will forever be remembered as the year of Tourism's Great Depression. At the height of the pandemic last May, the U.S. Travel Association reported that 51% of the 15.8 million tourism-related jobs had disappeared. That's more than twice the 25% unemployment rate experienced at the height of the Great Depression.

This is a critical time for the Village's tourism bureau and attractions. This funding is vital for each organization's viability as well as our collective ability to support the Village's economic recovery from the pandemic. This request not only addresses the negative impact of the pandemic for our respective organizations, but also supports priorities for the Village's economic recovery, and is in alignment with the recommended use of ARPA funds.

Funding Request

The organizations included in this proposal are grateful for the Village of Oak Park's consideration of our funding requests. The total amount of requested funding is \$765,000. A more detailed description of each request is provided, but a brief summary is below:

- **Visit Oak Park:** A total request of \$192,000 over two years, which would be enough to make up for the gap in the Village's hotel/motel tax needed to secure full state funding. Financial support in the amount of \$96,000 for calendar years 2022 and 2023 would enable Visit Oak Park to execute over \$1 million in advertising to support of the Village's attractions and small businesses.
- **The Frank Lloyd Wright Trust:** A total request of \$190,000 for website upgrades and advertising.
- **Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park:** A total request of \$150,000 over two years for IT infrastructure, capital expenditures, operations, and marketing.
- **Unity Temple Restoration Foundation:** A total request of \$100,000 over two years for a new ticketing platform, audience development, programming support, and advertising.
- **Oak Park Area Arts Council:** A total request of \$133,000 for the organization's re-granting program, art walk, and to hire a part-time administrative assistant.

Staff Comment: Staff is confident that these would fall under an eligible category with a high certainty that the US Treasury would approve it.

Hephzibah Children's Association

\$525,000

As outlined in detail in the attached narrative, we are respectfully requesting \$525,000 from the Village of Oak Park ARPA funds. This funding will ensure our ability to support necessary programming for Oak Park children including our critical comprehensive therapeutic services for severely traumatized young children who reside at Hephzibah Home, as well as our sliding-scale after school and summer day care program which serves hundreds of Oak Park elementary school children and their families. We are grateful for your thoughtful consideration of this request and welcome the opportunity to answer any further questions you may have regarding this request or our organizational needs. During this very challenging time, Hephzibah respectfully requests \$525,000 in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to offset \$1,240,000 in current fiscal year budget deficits resulting from increased expenditures and reduction of revenue incurred since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hephzibah continues to incur approximately \$15,000 in additional monthly expenses related to the pandemic, as well as \$120,000 in lost revenue.

Staff Comment: Staff is confident that these would fall under an eligible category with a high certainty that the US Treasury would approve it.

Collaboration for Early Childhood

\$1,109,300

Collaboration for Early Childhood – meeting the needs of the Oak Park early childhood community. ARPA funds have the potential to revitalize our child care workforce, empower families to re-enter the workforce, enhance the healthy development of our littlest citizens, and stabilize our future. Throughout the pandemic we have remained connected to the Oak Park community. Through group support sessions, focus groups and workshops, we have observed their struggles, heard their laments and listened to their worries. We ask the Village to join us in being a champion for the needs of our young children. It is in that spirit that we submit this proposal to the Village of Oak Park.

We request funding to support the early childhood community in the following areas outlined in our proposal: Home Visiting Support \$77,000: This proposal seeks to further close gaps in support for some of Oak Park’s most fragile families: those families enrolled in intensive home visiting services. Classroom Enhancement Support \$119,500 and Mental Health Support \$436,800: This proposal seeks support to build mechanisms for offering mental health and wellness support to teachers as well as resources to enhance classroom practice. Recruitment/Retention Support \$180,000: This proposal includes a request for support to build a Village-wide system for recruiting and retaining talented educators and leaders to Oak Park and attracting families to our programs. Sustainability Support \$296,000: In addition, this proposal includes a request for funding to build capacity in our community for grant-writing and grant-seeking, to enable Oak Park programs to build and grow in their capacity to sustain themselves.

SUMMARY OF COSTS

Item	Overall Cost			
	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four
Home Visiting Support	\$19,250	\$19,250	\$19,250	\$19,250
Classroom Enhancement Support	\$53,500	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
Recruitment & Retention Support	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
Mental Health Support	\$109,200	\$109,200	\$109,200	\$109,200
Sustainability Support	\$74,000	\$74,000	\$74,000	\$74,000
Total	\$300,950	\$269,450	\$269,450	\$269,450

Staff Comment: Staff is confident that these would fall under an eligible category with a high certainty that the US Treasury would approve it.

North Avenue Business District – North Art Bridge Project**\$100,000**

Oak Park Area Arts Council funds for The North Art Bridge project, bridging the Galewood neighborhood of Austin and Oak Park through art—murals, window art installations, and pop-up galleries/studios in vacant storefronts. The commercial area that forms Oak Park's northern border has been seriously impacted by the pandemic. We request funding for our North Art Bridge project, which will create transformational positive momentum for our district's recovery. An ARPA-funded, earmarked allocation of \$100,000 will be enough to pay for several murals and many installations, getting us most of the way to the critical mass for which we are aiming.

Staff Comment: The Village is expected to receive a significant amount of federal funds from other sources for the North Avenue streetscape project, and therefore staff recommends this be submitted as part of that project.

Oak Park Economic Development Corporation**\$500,000**

The Oak Park Economic Development Corporation (OPEDC) is committed to supporting a post-COVID recovery for the Oak Park business Community in a manner that is both impactful and equitable. To that end, we are proposing a local business assistance program that is equity-focused to qualify for funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). We believe that this program would provide a significant benefit to prospective Black business owners that want to locate or expand their storefront operations in Oak Park. To accomplish these goals, we are requesting \$500,000 in ARPA funds be allocated to this program to assist in the creation or expansion of 5-10 new Black-owned storefront businesses in the Village between now and 2026 (the final year that ARPA funds must be spent). We appreciate your review and consideration of this proposed program.

Staff Comment: Regardless if this is an ARPA eligible expense, this program legally would need to meet criteria similar to a reparations program. Staff will discuss this further during the meeting.

Village of Oak Park Estimated Requests/ Potential Needs

Staff recommends the following allocations to fund additional needs for the community and village, replace forecasted lost revenue, and fund water and sewer infrastructure projects.

<u>Support Public Health</u>	<u>Amount TBD</u>
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Provide funds to support the ongoing public health response, as needed.

<u>Estimated Lost Revenue FY2022</u>	<u>\$12,026,894</u>
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* Forecasted lost revenue based on Treasury formula using 5.2% compounded growth rate.

<u>Estimated Lost Revenue FY2023</u>	<u>\$14,881,265</u>
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* Forecasted lost revenue based on Treasury formula using 5.2% compounded growth rate.

<u>Fund Purchase of Four (4) LUCAS CPR Compression Devices</u>	<u>\$93,895</u>
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The Oak Park Fire Department is requesting ARPA funds to purchase four LUCAS CPR Compression Devices. As we continue with the F.D. 2022 Work Plan specifically point #2, to deliver Emergency Medical Service in a professional and timely manner, this is one of the areas we are addressing as making and immediate impact to those who require immediate and emergent lifesaving interventions. While these devices will be beneficial to all Cardiac Arrest patients, and as noticed in years of the data analyzed, the number of potentially viable patients in one subset of the study is more than twice the percentage the 2020 U.S. Census Data for Oak Park. In other words, and according to the latest Census Black/African American individuals make up 18.2% percent of the population of Oak Park yet account for 41.42% of Cardiac Arrest Calls. The prior population in the study not only accounts for a much larger proportional of Cardiac Arrests, but also a younger sample age. The combination of a larger study population and younger age group may translate into higher numbers of this underrepresented populations leaving the hospital with few neurologic deficits and better odds for full recovery.

We have no way of knowing the long-term complications of COVID-19. We do know people have neglected regular medical care and follow-up with their doctors for the past two years, potentially

leading to increased complications in what is normally routine medical care or treatment. As such, we know the addition of these machines will have an immediate impact on the disproportionate number minorities we currently serve, but more importantly will put the Oak Park Fire Department in a position to proactively treat all residents and visitors equally and give everyone a chance to walk out of the hospital as we move forward with the longer term unknown medical ramifications of COVID-19.

Note: The Oak Park Fire Department is currently in a trial period with LUCAS devices, and hopes to be able to purchase 4 of these devices before out trial periods runs out in April.

Fund Additional Costs Related to Small Business Recovery **\$1,500,000**

The Village is committed to assisting Oak Park businesses as we move through the Covid-19 emergency. Funding is requested to assist small Oak Park businesses with employee parking rebates, outdoor dining setup, PPE expenditures and marketing efforts.

Funding for Housing Forward **\$1,500,000**

Housing Forward is seeking funding from local, state and county entities to purchase a stand-alone 24-hour shelter which would have the ability to have bathroom/shower facilities for homeless persons. We are requesting \$1M in ARPA funds to assist with this initiative, as well as \$500,000 to purchase up to two freestanding self-cleaning bathrooms in the greater downtown area.

Funding for Beyond Hunger **\$85,000**

Funding for Beyond Hunger to help offset the costs of providing low-income Oak Park residents with critical COVID-19 response services to enhance food security.

ARPA Fund Administration **\$1,950,000**

Depending on how the Village Board decides ARPA funds will be allocated, it may require additional staff to manage the application process, disbursements, reporting, etc.

<u>Costs Directly Related to COVID-19 Mitigations</u>	<u>\$142,975</u>
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ARPA funds to cover costs directly related to mitigation efforts, for which we did not receive reimbursement from FEMA for FY2021, e.g., virucide.

<u>Fund Additional Costs Related to Lead Pipe Replacement</u>	<u>\$1,200,000</u>
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FY2021 \$200,000 FY2022 \$1,000,000. Note: Project costs for all lead replacement in the Village is estimated at \$70-100M.

<u>Fund Additional Costs Related to Water Infrastructure</u>	<u>\$12,550,000</u>
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FY2021 \$4,600,000 FY2022 \$7,950,000

<u>Fund Additional Costs Related to Flood Mitigation</u>	<u>\$2,269,383</u>
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FY2021 \$1,229,383 FY2022 \$1,040,000

<u>Fund Community Intervention Programs</u>	<u>Amount to TBD</u>
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The US Department of Education has provided a response on how ARPA funds can be used for various intervention programs. Below is an example of a few of those programs.

- Community violence intervention (CVI) programs
 - F.R.E.E. Program and M.U.R.E.E. Program – As an example, these programs were designed for at risk females and males of high school age
- Summer education and enrichment programs, including summer camp
 - Expand the Junior Citizen’s Police Academy and target at risk youth within Oak Park and maybe open it up to the 15th district (if the kids were in contact with Oak Park Police).

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- Wraparound services—such as medical care, mental health and substance use disorder care, and nutrition support—for students and their families, including hiring support personnel for schools such as nurses, school counselors, and social workers
 - Support Township Youth Services Initiatives such as Interventionist, the TIME Program and other services
 - Reengaging students who became disconnected from school during the pandemic to help them transition to career or postsecondary education programs

Non-Specific Community Survey Fund Requests

Support for Public Health Services

Support for Mental Health Services

Support for Health Disparities

Support for Crisis Intervention Services

Support for Black Residents of Oak Park

These categories reflect some of the top responses in the community survey. Even though this report does not have a specific request associated with these categories, a significant amount of grant funds is received from the IL Department of Public Health to fund various public health services and in particular, additional grant funds are received during these pandemic years for staffing support and vaccination clinics as well as other pandemic supplies. If we were to identify additional community needs in these areas, we need to ensure we are using all eligible grants available to us from the IL Department of Public Health to cover these services.

Another recommendation as to how the Village Board may further identify needs in these categories is to set aside some funds for potential programs that will be identified in the Illinois Project for Local Assessment of Need (IPLAN) that is required by the IL Department of Public Health for all certified public health departments. The Village's updated plan is due this July. This plan traditionally does identify potential gaps in services in this category as well as all of the categories noted below. This could be a valuable tool for discussion on further distribution of funds.

In addition, staff recommends that funds for crisis intervention services should wait until the current study being conducted by Berry Dunn which is expected in late summer or early fall. In addition, the Village Board will begin conversations regarding reparations in the 2nd quarter of 2022. Some of these categories and associated comments are linked to those projects as well.

Summary of Obligated Funds and Funds Requested

American Rescue Plan Act Funding Requests		
Total Allocated ARPA Funds to Oak Park	38,984,402	
<u>Funds Approved by Village Board</u>		<u>Notes</u>
Lost Revenue FY2020	(9,739,046)	Lost Revenue - General and Parking Funds
Estimated Lost Revenue FY2021	(9,018,757)	This is an estimate only, to be amended after 2021 actuals are known
Resolution 21-166 Beyond Hunger FY2021 and 2022	(85,000)	
Resolution 21-168 Housing Forward FY2021 and 2022	(500,000)	
Resolution 21-180 OP Business Recovery & Non-Profit PPE Grants	(550,000)	
Resolution 21-292 2021 Holiday Gift Guide to Address Economic Impact	(10,000)	
Resolution 21-320 Public Health Nursing Services Agreement Cassidy Olson	(40,000)	
Resolution 21-325 Public Health Two Fellow Positions	(12,000)	
Resolution 21-324 Public Health Portion of Nurses Salaries	(34,000)	
Resolution 22-26 OP Vaccination Card Requirement - Continued Business Assistance Grant	(150,000)	Approved 1/18/22
SUB-TOTAL FUNDS APPROVED BY VILLAGE BOARD	(20,138,803)	
REMAINING UNOBLIGATED ARPA FUNDS	18,845,599	
<u>Organization Fund Requests/Proposals</u>		
Park District of Oak Park	(2,000,000)	Lost Revenue
Oak Park Tourism Recovery Initiative	(765,000)	New Project
Hephzibah Children's Association	(525,000)	New Project
Collaboration for Early Childhood	(1,109,300)	New Project
North Ave Business District - North Art Bridge Project	(100,000)	New Project
Oak Park Economic Development Corporation	(500,000)	New Project
SUB-TOTAL ORGANIZATION REQUESTS	(4,999,300)	
REMAINING UNOBLIGATED ARPA FUNDS LESS ORGANIZATION REQUESTS	13,846,299	
<u>Village of Oak Park Estimated Requests/Potential Needs</u>		
Support for Public Health Response		Amount TBD - ongoing, as needed
Fund Community Intervention Programs		Amount TBD
Estimated Lost Revenue FY2022	(12,026,894)	Lost Revenue - General and Parking Funds **
Estimated Lost Revenue FY2023	(14,881,265)	Lost Revenue - General and Parking Funds **
Fire Department Purchase of Four (4) LUCAS CPR Compression Devices	(93,895)	
Fund additional costs related to small business recovery	(1,500,000)	
Standalone public bathroom initiative - Replace homeless shelter bathroom and shower	(1,500,000)	
Food pantry needs	(85,000)	
Administration of ARPA Funds (additional staff to manage application process, disbursements, reporting, etc.)	(1,950,000)	
Unreimbursed costs directly related to COVID-19 mitigation efforts for FY2021, e.g., virucide	(142,975)	
Fund additional costs related to lead pipe replacement	(1,200,000)	FY2021 \$200,000 FY2022 \$1,000,000 *
Fund additional costs related to water infrastructure	(12,550,000)	FY2021 \$4,600,000 FY2022 \$7,950,000
Fund additional costs related to flood mitigation	(2,269,383)	FY2021 \$1,229,383 FY2022 \$1,040,000
SUB-TOTAL VILLAGE OF OAK PARK ESTIMATED REQUESTS	(48,199,412)	
<u>Non-Specific Community Survey Fund Requests</u>		
Support for Public Health Services		Amount TBD
Support for Mental Health Services		Amount TBD
Support for Health Disparities		Amount TBD
Support for Crisis Intervention Services		Amount TBD
Support for Black Residents of Oak Park		Amount TBD
SUB-TOTAL NON-SPECIFIC COMMUNITY FUND REQUESTS	-	
TOTAL ARPA FUNDS REQUESTED	(53,198,712)	
NET REMAINING ARPA FUNDS SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(34,353,113)	
* Note: Total project costs for all lead replacement in the Village is estimated at \$70-100M.		
** These forecasted lost revenues can be used to pay for all requests of future funding.		

Where Do We Go From Here?

It is the Village's intent that recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic will be driven by and for the community residents and our community partners. We continue to look forward to working with residents and our community partners to ensure Oak Park thrives in the months and years ahead and that our community values are incorporated into our choices.

For many months communities have been looking at a set of interim rules set out by the US Department of Treasury saying what ARPA funds can be spent on. It was generally understood that any losses tied to the COVID-19 pandemic would be eligible as would infrastructure investments, but there were many gray areas. On January 6, 2022 the final rules were released by the Department of Treasury for which this 437-page document can be found online. Some of the most impactful rule changes are how the lost revenue from the pandemic is treated and allowed communities with revenue loss under \$10 million to take a standard deduction. The formula for how the loss revenue is calculated was also revised raising the inflation factor. This new formula change could be a useful tool in Oak Park to provide more flexible distribution of funds. Another change allows ARPA funds to match federal grants and leverage other funding sources. However, with this new flexibility the Department of Treasury and other advisors continue to stress that communities need to *take their time and be deliberate with using their funds*.

This report summarizes to date funds received from CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act) funds, Oak Park's annual CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds during the pandemic and the Village's distributions to date from Oak Park's ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds. At this meeting staff will provide an overview of the community input to date and how to make decisions in the next phase of distribution of funds. In particular to this meeting, staff will review the latest specific requests from the community since the last distribution of funds that are immediate needs. A summary of these requests is found under the section *Specific ARPA Requests from the Community*.

Staff is going to first review a strategy that will allow the Village Board to gain the most flexibility in making decisions about the distribution of funds. This will be important because some of the community specific requests may not meet certain Department of Treasury criteria. Staff will review each request. Each requester will also be invited to listen to the discussion. The Village Board could direct staff for additional information and/or prepare documents for formal approval to distribute funds.

There is also a section labeled *Village of Oak Park Estimated Requests/Potential Needs* and another section labeled *Non-Specific Community Survey Requests*. Staff will summarize these sections as well.

This was an initial attempt by staff to identify potential use of ARPA funds based on current budget goals, CIP needs or gaps in services that staff was familiar with due to their operations. As you can see from these sections, the needs or options far exceed the available funds. In addition, in the other section we wanted to be sure we called out some of the most requested areas with community input that didn't necessarily have specific concepts attached to the feedback. Staff recommends a follow-up meeting in the next quarter to discuss options for these next distributions of funds.