

# EVANSTON ILLINOIS

## **American Rescue Plan Act 2021**

**City Council Update December 6, 2021**

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12/1/2021



# ARPA FUNDING TIMELINE

## \$43 million allocated to Evanston



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Annual Report 2020

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**

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## American Rescue Plan Act

### What is the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)?

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) aims to support state, local, territorial and Tribal governments by providing resources to:

- Respond to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Address its economic fallout
- Lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery

The City of Evanston received approximately \$43 million in Federal American Rescue Plan Act funding. In order to identify how to spend the funds, the City began by hosting three town hall meetings in coordination with community partners, Evanston Cradle to Career, Evanston Community Foundation, Evanston Early Childhood Council, Northwestern University and Evanston Latinos. The videos from these meetings are listed below.

As the City gathers more information and makes cohesive decisions regarding how to use the funding, this web page will be updated.

### Funding Timeline

#### ARPA FUNDING TIMELINE

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**May 2021** Half of funds received.

**May 2022** Remaining funds received

**December 31, 2024** Funds expended or encumbered

**December 31, 2026** Funds spent

**July 2021** First disbursement of \$21.5 million assigned and approved by City Council

**March 1, 2022** Remaining funds assigned and approved by City Council

**2022 - 2024** Projects implemented

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### Town Hall Videos

June 12, Robert Crown Community Center - [Watch video](#)

June 17, Virtual - [Watch video](#)

June 29, Evanston Ecology Center (Spanish) - [Watch video](#)

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### City Meetings Discussing ARPA

Date	Agenda Packet/ Item Name	Presentation
10/4/21	<a href="#">Special Order of Business 1</a>	
8/9/21	<a href="#">Special Order of Business 2</a>	
7/26/21	<a href="#">Special Order of Business 1</a>	<a href="#">ARPA Proposal for Funding Allocations &amp; Process</a>
5/24/21	<a href="#">Special Order of Business 1</a>	<a href="#">ARPA Guidelines</a>

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### Resources

- [ARPA Interim Final Rule from the Treasury Department](#)
- [ARPA Fact Sheet from the Treasury Department](#)
- [City of Evanston Post COVID-19 Action Plan](#)
- [Community Feedback from ARPA Town Hall Meetings](#)
- [Notes from the 6.29.21 Spanish Town Hall Meeting](#)

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<https://www.cityofevanston.org/government/american-rescue-plan-act-arpa#!/>



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Business District Improvements

- Request for Proposal (RFP) for Business District Strategy and Implementation Plan
  - Seek services of a business district maintenance and ambassador program
  - Identify opportunities to improve streetscape for additional outdoor dining, music, and retail markets
  - Create and implement a city-wide placemaking plan
- ★ **Recommendations to the Economic Development Committee or Planning & Development Committee (design/regulation, etc.) before City Council.**

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Direct Assistance/Request for Funding

- **The Aux-** The Growing Season is seeking \$1 million to assist in the cost of renovating 2223 Washington as the home of The Aux
  - **Northlight Theater** - will present its request for funding totaling \$2 million at a future meeting. They are fundraising for the estimated \$25 million performing arts center.
- ★ **Recommendations to Economic Development Committee before City Council.**

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Workforce Development

- Coordinate with both internal & external employer partners.
- Identify industry priorities with employer partners
- Promote 21st century in-demand employment and workforce development
- Seek apprenticeship opportunities both internally and externally
- Wraparound support
- Identify & reduce barriers to employment.
- Increase visibility of COE's workforce development initiatives.

★ **Recommendations to MWEBE and Economic Development Committees before City Council**

# SOCIAL SERVICES

## Mental Health

Staff and partnering agencies develop a detailed plan for the Living Room site and explore sources of ongoing operating support

## Childcare

Staff work with the EECC to develop a detailed plan to address the needs of existing childcare providers

## Latinx Welcoming Center

Task force of Latinx service providers and community members to conduct community outreach about physical space and programming needs, and potential for operating support from IDPH

★ **Recommendations to Social Services Committee before City Council.**

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING

## Four housing and homeless priorities:

- Affordable and mixed-income housing development
- Affordable, resilient housing retrofit program
- Assistance for small, local landlords
- Permanent 24/7 homeless shelter

★ **Recommendations to Housing and Community Development Committee before City Council.**



# WATER & SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE (CARP/Environmental Justice)

**Eligible ARPA uses improve access to clean drinking water, improve wastewater and stormwater infrastructure systems:**

- Water main replacement
- Replacement of lead water service lines
- City Fiber Optic System Modernization (\$5,000,000)
- Sidewalk Improvement Program (\$2,000,000)
- Sidewalk Gap Infill Program (\$2,000,000)
- Animal Shelter Improvements (\$3,300,000 total, of which \$700,000 is funded)

★ **Recommendations to Administrative & Public Works Committee before City Council.**

# INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE RECOVERY (CARP/Environmental Justice)

## Address disparate health and economic impact of COVID-19 on low-income residents and communities of color

- Develop a community engagement process with residents of neighborhood(s) targeted for funding
- Planning will involve cross-departmental coordination, including Workforce & Economic Development, Social Services, Public Works, Housing and Community Development

★ **Recommendations to Housing and Community Development Committee or Economic Development Committee before City Council.**

# PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

## **Community engagement process with Evanston residents, particularly historically disenfranchised groups, so new voices are heard**

Develop a recommendation for a consulting agency/organization to facilitate a PB process for consideration by City Council.

- ★ **Specific funding recommendations to respective committees of the council before City Council.**

# DRAFT EVALUATION CRITERIA

<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT</b>
Description	Workforce Development Opportunity
Location	Climate Resiliency Elements
Total Project Cost	Personal financial wellness
<b>FUNDING SOURCES</b>	Public health
ARPA	Others TBD
Housing Tax Credits	<b>ARPA CATEGORY</b>
Other Govt	Economic Development
TIF	Social Services
CIP	Affordable Housing
General Fund	Qualified Area Focused Inclusive & Equitable Recovery
District 65	<b>COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CROSS SECTOR THEMES</b>
Private	Housing
<b>FINANCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT</b>	Childcare
Jobs Created	Investment in Black & Latinx Communities
Jobs Retained	Employment
Property Tax Generated	Mental Health & Trauma
Sales Tax Generated	<b>CITY COUNCIL GOALS 2019-2020</b>
Other Local Taxes (amusement, liquor, etc)	City Infrastructure
Equity/skin in game	Job Creation
Public Investment as % of Total Project Cost (<25%)	Expand Affordable Housing
<b>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT RETURN ON INVESTMENT</b>	Ensure Equity
Local Hiring	Stabilize Finances
Career Path Opportunity	Climate Action Resilience Plan
Liveable/"Thrivable" Salary	
Preference / priority for local ownership, MWEBE	

# NEXT STEPS

## City Council direction on priorities and process:

- Business District Improvements
- Direct assistance for businesses
- Workforce Development
- Social Services: Mental Health Living Room, Childcare support, and Latinx Welcoming Center
- Four housing strategies: new units, rehab program, small landlord assistance, homeless shelter
- Infrastructure projects
- Development of processes for Inclusive and Equitable Recovery and Participatory Budgeting
- Project & program evaluation criteria