



# THE CITY OF NASHUA

*Office of Economic Development*

*"The Gate City"*

**TO:** Board of Aldermen

**FROM:** Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director  
John Griffin, Chief Financial Officer  
Cheryl Linder, Chief of Staff

**Date:** August 26<sup>th</sup> 2021

**RE:** Vision for usage of ARPA Funds & Guiding Principles

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I am writing to request a meeting to discuss a draft framework acting as a preliminary plan and to communicate a vision for how the use of American Recovery Plan Act ("ARPA") funds will be developed.

Municipalities across the nation are the beneficiaries of a significant influx of federal funds via the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). ARPA is intended to address the negative health and economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Nashua anticipates approximately \$16,000,000 in funds. We received our first of two installment payments of \$8,000,000 in May of this year. We expect the second installment to be distributed next May 2022.

At the September 14, 2021 Board of Aldermen Meeting, the Board will have a 1<sup>st</sup> reading accepting these funds. Over the coming weeks the Office of Economic Development with the assistance of Financial Services and the Office of the Mayor will undertake a community outreach effort to discuss an appropriate framework. We'd like to offer residents an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft framework for spending ARPA funding, which has specific eligibility requirements.

The goals we want consensus on prior to undertaking this outreach exercise is first, that this money will have a meaningful and lasting impact on Nashua. Second, it is an imperative that we be strategic with this infusion of funds and making sure we not only accomplish our statutory obligation, but also enhance our economic wellbeing. These guiding principles should lead our decision-making as we move forward.

There will be a presentation providing an overview of how ARPA funding may be spent and a draft framework for discussion purposes at the Special Board of Aldermen Meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORT

### **Providing Comments**

If you have comments to share, please fill this form - by September 30, 2021.

### **Two Virtual Forums**

On September 21<sup>st</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> 7-8PM the Office of Economic Development will host a Virtual Forum to present the proposed ARPA framework, answer questions, and solicit additional feedback. If interested in attending please contact Amy DeRoche at 603.594.3661 or email her at [derochea@nashuanh.gov](mailto:derochea@nashuanh.gov)

### **In Person Forum**

On September 29<sup>th</sup> 5 PM the Office of Economic Development will host an in-person Forum to present the proposed ARPA framework, answer questions, and solicit additional feedback. If interested in attending or if you would like more information please contact Amy DeRoche at 603.594.3661 or email her at [derochea@nashuanh.gov](mailto:derochea@nashuanh.gov)

### **Virtual Business Forums**

On September 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 AM the Office of Economic Development will host a Virtual Forum to present the proposed ARPA framework, answer questions, and solicit additional feedback. Specifically outreaching and hearing from businesses and their employees. If interested in attending or learning more please contact Amy DeRoche at 603.594.3661 or email her at [derochea@nashuanh.gov](mailto:derochea@nashuanh.gov)

### **Timeline**

The goal is to present an updated ARPA framework to the Board of Aldermen in October and seek final approval of the framework shortly thereafter.