



LUMPKIN COUNTY
Board of Commissioners
Special Called Work Session Agenda
Executive Conference Room

August 11, 2021
3:00 P.M.

- **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Dockery

- **OTHER ITEMS**

Discuss American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding

- **ADJOURNMENT**



Lumpkin County, Georgia

Finance Department

Date: August 11, 2021

Agenda Item: Discuss American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding

Item Description: Discuss American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding

Attachments:
ARPA BOC Discussion 08.11.21

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Board of Commissioners Discussion

August 11, 2021

HISTORY

- „ American Rescue Plan was signed into law on March 11, 2021 by President Biden
- „ Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund was established and funded with \$362 billion
- „ \$61.5 billion in direct federal aid was appropriate for county governments
- „ Lumpkin County was allocated \$6,528,348
- „ \$3,264,174 was received in May 2021; the remainder will be received in 2022

KEY DATES

- „ Funds may cover costs from March 3, 2021 through December 24, 2024
- „ Premium pay may be paid retroactively, dating back to the start of the public health emergency on January 27, 2020
- „ Funds must be obligated by December 24, 2024
- „ Funds must be expended with all work performed and completed by December 31, 2026

ELIGIBLE USES

- „ Support public health response
- „ Address negative economic impact
- „ Premium pay for essential workers
- „ Payroll Expenses for public health & public safety employees
- „ Replace public sector revenue loss
- „ Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

SUPPORT PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE

- „ Prevent and mitigate COVID-19
- „ COVID-19 treatment and medical services
- „ Prevent and mitigate COVID-19
- „ Enhance behavioral and mental health services
- „ Support local health and safety workforce
- „ Improving the design and execution of health and public health programs
- „ Address the disparities in public health outcomes

ADDRESS NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- „ Assistance to households
- „ Small business and non-profit support
- „ Aid to impacted industries
- „ Rehiring state and local government staff, including county employees
- „ Assistance to unemployed workers
- „ Expenses to improve efficacy of economic relief programs
- „ Services for qualified census tract and other disproportionately impact communities

PREMIUM PAY FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS

- „ Essential work is defined as work involving regular in-person interactions or regular physical handling of items that were also handled by others
- „ May be provided retroactively for work performed any time since January 27, 2020, which was the start of the COVID-19 public health emergency
- „ Workers that are eligible for premium pay include any work performed by an employee of the state, local, or tribal government
- „ Premium pay means an amount up to \$13 per hour in addition to wages and not exceed \$25,000 per eligible worker
- „ Additional written justification is needed for essential workers above 150% of the state's average annual wage for all occupations

PAYROLL EXPENSES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES

- „ Funds may be used for county public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees
- „ Funds can be used to support the payroll/benefits for the portion of the employee's time that is dedicated to responding to COVID-19
- „ Counties may consider public health/safety employees to be entirely devoted to mitigating/responding to COVID-19 if the employee, or his/her operating unit or division, is primarily dedicated to responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency

REPLACE PUBLIC SECTOR REVENUE LOSS

- „ Counties may use Recovery Funds for the provision of “government services” to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- „ “Lost revenue” may be used for most regular government purposes, except for activities such as rainy day or reserve funds and for debt service payments
- „ Government services include, but are not limited to, infrastructure (including roads); cybersecurity; health services; environmental remediation; and police, fire, and other public safety services

WATER, SEWER, & BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

- „ Water and sewer guidance allows for a broad range of necessary investments in projects that improve access to clean drinking water, improve wastewater and stormwater infrastructure systems
- „ Other eligible water and sewer projects include stormwater runoff, water pollution, flood control, and green infrastructure that support stormwater resiliency
- „ Broadband infrastructure investments should be aimed at unserved or underserved communities
- „ Eligible broadband projects are expected to meet or exceed symmetrical upload and download speeds of 100 Mbps.

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- „ Extraordinary deposits into a defined pension fund
- „ Using funds for non-federal match when barred by another federal regulation or statute
- „ Funding debt service
- „ Legal settlements or judgements
- „ Deposit to rainy day funds or financial reserves
- „ General infrastructure
- „ General economic development or workforce development activities

DISCUSSION