American Rescue Plan Act: Update

Budget and Policy Committee
March 25, 2020
Agenda

• Federal Funding Status
• Local Aid component of the plan
• Allocation Objectives and Considerations
• Proposed Funding Categories
• Process and Next Steps
• Next steps
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): What We Know

**Funding**

- Range of funds $140M - $311M
- 50% in 2021, 50% in 12 months
- Must be expended by 12/31/2024
- Cash advance to be in City coffers within 60 days of signature

**Key Highlights**

- Revenue backfill/City Services
- Infrastructure investment
- Pandemic response

*More specificity to come from Treasury*
Other Stimulus Funds

In addition to the Local Aid portion of the ARP Act, other allocations will be made to the State, city agencies and regional partners.

**Public Health Response**
- Vaccine distribution
- Testing & tracing
- Funding for 100K Public Health workers
- Substance abuse and mental health

**Housing/Homelessness**
- Rental & utility assistance
- Mortgage assistance
- Homeless assistance, supportive services & acquisition and development of non-congregate housing

**Economic Recovery**
- Additional PPP funding
- Dedicated grant program for restaurants
- Shuttered venues support
- Funding for airports and airport concessionaires
- Community navigators to connect socially & economically disadvantaged business to resources

**Community Support**
- Head Start funding
- 15% increase to monthly SNAP benefits
- Childcare stabilization grants
- Internet connectivity grants for libraries
- Nutrition programs for older adults

**Additional Recipients**
- Denver Public Schools
- Denver Water
- RTD
Funding Objectives and Considerations

Deliver funding into community timely

Apply an equity lens when reviewing proposals

Use in a sustainable way

Opportunity to leverage 2022 budget process
Proposed Funding Categories

**Restore Services**
- To restore 2021 reductions
- Early restoration activities could occur after funds received
- Future allocation phases in the spring-summer
- Will be determined by future year budget capacity

**Supplemental Services**
- Short-term investments to address service backlogs due to COVID-19
- Allocations would support and follow more immediate restoration services
- Limited approval due to future year budget impacts

**Emergency Response**
- Support on-going public health and safety needs
- Distribute in coordination with CRF, prioritizing CRF funds
- On-going proposal intake

**Economic Recovery**
- Allocated in coordination with DEDO and larger economic recovery and reopening efforts
- Contingent on eligibility guidelines from the US Treasury
Economic Recovery Planning and Goals

Equitable recovery is the primary goal

- Awaiting specific parameters / allowances for ARP Act
- Cross-agency team is meeting to discuss approach/strategies to equitable economic recovery
- Council and community engagement forthcoming
Initial Priority Development

In June 2020, City Council identified priority areas for CRF:

- Public Health
- Emergency Sheltering
- Individual Support
- City Operations
- Housing Support
- Economic Recovery
- Food Assistance

In August 2020, City Council identified 2021 Budget Priorities, which guided areas to avoid in 2020 budget reductions:

- Mitigate and reduce involuntary displacement
- Increase affordable housing and support for those experiencing homelessness
- Reframe safety in a public health, evidence-based, anti-racist approach
- Protect the natural environment and combat climate change
- Increase complete multimodal transportation connections
- Support recovery of workforce, local businesses and community organizations
Refining Service Restoration Priorities for ARP Act

*Process is contingent on guidance from the Treasury Department.*
Process Timeline

- **DOF meeting with City Council President and Pro Tem**
- **Initiated process with city agencies**
- **Compile a list of priorities to distribute to Council President and Pro Tem**
- **Present restoration and supplemental service proposals to City Council**
- **First ARPA fund deployment**

**Budget and Policy Committee**
- **3/25 meeting**

**Begin one-on-one meeting with councilmembers to discuss service restoration priorities**

**Receive final priorities of the body as whole**

**Potential CRF Phase 5 deployment**
Questions