

Richmond City Council Work Session

American Rescue Plan Act

July 12, 2021; 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Purpose

To review the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on the Richmond community and to discuss next steps regarding the American Rescue Plan Act.

Objective

To develop an agreement for a process and spending plan for ARPA funding of \$155 million.



I. Review of an ARPA Implementation Model and the Process

Dana Wedeles, Special Assistant to the Alexandria City Manager, ARPA Virginia Model - Alexandria, Virginia

- Key points of the Alexandria model and process
- Council Questions and Answers



Welcome

Cynthia Newbille, Council President

Introductions of



Martha Marshall, Facilitator,
Consultant

and



Dana Wedeles, Presenter,
Special Assistant to the Alexandria City
Manager, ARPA Virginia Model - Alexandria,

II. Proposed Steps for Agreement & Consideration to Develop a Framework for the Planning & Decisions for ARPA Funding

Martha Marshall, Facilitator

- **Council Decision Point** – Determine whether Council desires to identify priorities & funding decisions for the full amount of \$155 million or for half of the funding of \$77 million.



Framework for Council Discussion for a Proposed Plan

Martha Marshall, Facilitator

As a part of the initial phase of the planning process, Council will agree on the steps needed to determine the ARPA funding process.

The steps below provide points of discussion for Council's consideration to develop a proposed approach.



Council's Plan Development Agreement may consist of the following steps:

1. Council will identify goals, projects, and priorities according to categories from the ARPA guidelines and identify priorities from the past and any new priorities.



2. Determine the impact of the pandemic to Richmond residents and community impact.

- Receive data to identify Richmond's needs according to ARPA guideline categories & eligible items.
- Enhance Collaboration between Admin. & Council.
- Determine a timeline, assigning roles and tasks between Administration & Council staff and other resources needed.



Step 2 continued

- Conduct Research and Gather Data to determine impact.
 - ⇒ Determine the revenue loss eligible for reimbursement
 - ⇒ Determine premium payments eligible for reimbursement.
 - ⇒ Determine the impact on community health, social/human services and economic impact.
 - ⇒ Determine potential eligible infrastructure investments (Combined Sewer, Water, Broadband).



- 3.** Council and Administration will collaborate to present projects for consideration and indicate the impact, the costs and how decisions were reached.
- 4.** Review all items and pare down the initial list to determine how to use funding and the funding needed.
- 5.** Identify eligible and feasible items in the first tranche of funding.



6. Coordinate Community Engagement sessions to explain the ARPA process and for resident input
 - Inform community how it can contribute to process
 - Promote & conduct public sessions for community engagement.
 - Survey and/or solicit community interest in projects.
 - Promote public information notification.

7. Council and Administration will collaborate to pare down the final list of priorities to create Tiers 1-3 to rank priority of projects for \$155 mil. funding. Composition of collaborative Council & Administration Work Group will be determined.



8. Establish Partnerships and Leverage ARPA Funds -
Research for awareness of available funding opportunities (Local, Federal and State government)



III. Update on Federal Lobbyist Activities and Funding

Ron Jordan, Lobbyist, Advantus Strategies - Lobbyist

- Report on the federal Lobbyist Team & the status of their efforts.
- Report of known ARPA funding through the state at \$4.3 Billion.



III. Update on Federal Lobbyist Activities and Funding

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- ⇒ Report of known ARPA funding through the state at \$4.3 Billion.

IV. Exploring Next Steps & Key Questions Moving Forward – And where we go from here



Council Work Session Presenter & Facilitator Information



Dana Wedeles, Presenter

Dana Wedeles has been employed for the past 12 years with the City of Alexandria, Virginia. She currently serves as Special Assistant to the City Manager, providing oversight to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) process for design and implementation of the project. Dana has experience in planning, systems design, community engagement, budget development and site assessment. As Principal Planner with Alexandria, Dana has led staff to develop a 5 year Department Strategic Plan and implementation strategy. Dana has a Bachelor of Arts degree from New York University, a Master of Urban Planning degree from Columbia University and a Certificate of Public Management of Local Government from George Washington University.





Martha Marshall, Facilitator

Martha Marshall is a management consultant who helps government and non-profit organizations achieve sustainable results. Martha has worked for more than 35 years in local, state, national and international government settings. She is a skilled trainer and facilitator who helps public and non-profit organizations build results management capacity. She has served over 18 years as head of an internal consulting unit in Prince William County, VA that led strategic planning, organizational effectiveness, performance management and innovation. She helped the County implement a nationally recognized managing-for-results system that engaged community members to define the desired future vision with elected leaders and engaged managers across departments to develop and measure strategies to achieve success. Martha has served The Urban Institute, ICMA, the National Civic League and Sloan Foundation through training and research projects. Martha has a master's degree in Urban Management from Virginia Tech and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Randolph College. She has served as an adjunct professor in performance management for George Mason University.

