

CITY OF HARRISONBURG AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was passed by Congress and signed by President Biden on March 11, 2021. These funds are intended to help states and localities fight the COVID-19 pandemic, maintain vital public services, and build a strong, resilient, and equitable recovery from the pandemic.

After listening to the community through an extensive 6-month public engagement process, the Harrisonburg City Council identified five investment priority areas for the City of Harrisonburg's ARPA funding.

Invest in Community Mental Health Improvements

The pandemic presented additional mental health challenges to our community and made evident a crucial growing need for support.

We seek to invest in community mental health improvements, especially for youth and the homeless.

Increase Affordable and Accessible Childcare

The pandemic made evident how crucial having affordable and accessible childcare is to the functioning of our community and the social well-being of our children.

We seek to increase support for workers and working families related to childcare.

Expand Accessible, Affordable Housing

Many struggled with housing insecurity during the pandemic.

We seek to expand accessible, affordable housing.

Improve Neighborhoods

The pandemic highlighted how important neighborhoods are to daily well-being, and a sense of belonging.

We seek to improve the beautification of neighborhoods in ways that promote safety and connection and yield additional environmental benefits.

Enhance Community Spaces

The pandemic highlighted just how vital community spaces are for connections and well-being.

We seek to enhance more equitable distribution of accessible parks and recreation services and amenities across the city.

**More information on ARPA and the Public Engagement Process is available at:
<https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/ARPA>**



**CITY OF HARRISONBURG
CITY COUNCIL**