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# City of Rochester New Hampshire

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American Rescue Plan Act  
Project Recommendations  
September-2021

# **ARPA PROJECT FUNDING REQUESTS-CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATIONS**

<u>Department</u>	<u>ARPA Project Descriptions</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>	<u>Current Adopted Funding</u>	<u>City Manager Included</u>	<u>City Manager Excluded</u>	<u>Included Amounts</u>	<u>Page</u>
<b><u>City Manager's Office</u></b>							
City Manager's Office	Sheltering-Homeless Initiative	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000			3
City Manager's Office	Community Health Coordinator	\$916,000	\$0	\$916,000			4
City Manager's Office	Employer Assisted Child Care Cooperative	\$1,400,000	\$0	\$1,400,000			6
<b><u>Subtotal City Manager's Office</u></b>		<b><u>\$3,316,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$3,316,000</u></b>			
<b><u>Finance-Human Resources</u></b>							
Finance-Human Resources	Employee Premium Pay	\$92,000	\$0	\$92,000			8
<b><u>Subtotal Finance Human Resources</u></b>		<b><u>\$92,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$92,000</u></b>			
<b><u>Water Fund</u></b>							
Water Fund	Water Transmission Main Lining	\$2,000,000	\$400,000	\$2,000,000			10
<b><u>Subtotal Water Fund</u></b>		<b><u>\$2,000,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$400,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,000,000</u></b>			
<b><u>Arena</u></b>							
Arena	Lost Operating Revenue Replenishment	\$129,815	\$0	\$129,815			12
<b><u>Subtotal Arena</u></b>		<b><u>\$129,815</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$129,815</u></b>			
<b><u>Recreation</u></b>							
Recreation	Lost Operating Revenue Replenishment	\$105,022	\$0		\$105,022		14
<b><u>Subtotal Arena</u></b>		<b><u>\$105,022</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>		<b><u>\$105,022</u></b>		
<b><u>Economic Development</u></b>							
Economic Development	Development of Affordable Housing	\$1,500,000	\$0		\$1,500,000		16
Economic Development	Economic Development Analysis-Data Repository	\$280,000	\$0		\$280,000		18
<b><u>Subtotal Economic Development</u></b>		<b><u>\$1,780,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>		<b><u>\$1,780,000</u></b>		
<b><u>Water Fund</u></b>							
Water Fund	Cocheco Well Treatment Upgrades	\$5,600,000	\$0		\$5,600,000		21
Water Fund	Round Pound Capacity Augmentation	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000		23
Water Fund	Electrical Upgrades	\$1,650,000	\$450,000		\$1,650,000		25
<b><u>Subtotal Water Fund</u></b>		<b><u>\$8,250,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,450,000</u></b>		<b><u>\$8,250,000</u></b>		
<b><u>Sewer Fund</u></b>							
Sewer Fund	WWTF Carbon Storage & Sludge Dewatering Buildings	\$2,000,000	\$1,100,000		\$2,000,000		27
Sewer Fund	WWTF Secondary Clarifier Upgrades	\$950,000	\$350,000		\$950,000		29
<b><u>Subtotal Sewer Fund</u></b>		<b><u>\$2,950,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,450,000</u></b>		<b><u>\$2,950,000</u></b>		
<b><u>Planning</u></b>							
Planning	Building Deferred Maintenance Program	\$301,000	\$0		\$301,000		31
<b><u>Subtotal Planning</u></b>		<b><u>\$301,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>		<b><u>\$301,000</u></b>		

**ARPA PROJECT FUNDING REQUESTS-CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATIONS**

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<b><u>External Submissions</u></b>							
Easter Seals	Champlin Place Development	\$750,000			\$750,000		34
<b><u>Subtotal External Submissions</u></b>		<b><u>\$750,000</u></b>			<b><u>\$750,000</u></b>		
	<b><u>ARPA SUMMARY</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNTS</u></b>					
	<b>Total ARPA Entitlement Award</b>	<b>\$6,147,502</b>					
	<b>Amounts Included</b>	<b>\$5,537,815</b>					
	<b>Available ARPA Balance</b>	<b>\$609,687</b>					
	<b>Amounts Excluded</b>	<b>\$14,136,022</b>					
	<b><u>All Total Projects</u></b>	<b><u>\$19,673,837</u></b>					



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL**

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

1. **Department:** City Manager                      **Department Head:** Blaine Cox
2. **Project Name:** Sheltering/Homelessness Initiative
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** No
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$1,000,000 under ARPA expenditure category 3.11 Housing Support – Services for Unhoused Persons.
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): These funds would be allocated to fund capital costs and startup costs for a homelessness initiative as determined by the Fidelity Committee.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**  
Services to address homelessness and improve access to stable, affordable housing among unhoused individuals.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): These funds would be allocated to support the implementation of an initiative as recommended by the Fidelity Committee. Projects for consideration could include a warming center, shelter or supportive services. Additional future funding and contributions from other communities may be required depending upon the scope of the approved project.
8. **Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):
9. **Status: City Manager Recommendation: INCLUDED**



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1. **Department:** City Manager **Department Head:** Blaine Cox
2. **Project Name:** Community Health Coordinator Program
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** No
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$916,000 (over five years) under ARPA expenditure category section 1 Behavioral Health Care and section 3.14 Social Determinants of Health – Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators.
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): Establishment of a Community Health Coordinator position and functions within the Welfare Office to connect community members in need to resources and increase overall health outcomes. This position would coordinate with the Police Department to respond and assist on check condition calls and follow up with those involved on these calls that occur after business hours. This would be developed as evidence-based program with the Community Health Coordinator serving as a resource to address the current need for mobile, non-enforcement response for intervention or health services. The allocation for this project would fund through 2026 a new Community Health Coordinator position, administrative support, office equipment, clothing and a vehicle.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**  
Facilitate access to resources that improve health outcomes, including services that connect residents with health care resources and public assistance programs and build healthier environments.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): Upon allocation of the funds for this initiative, Rochester Welfare and the Police

Department would coordinate to implement an evidence-based program. A job description and classification for the new ARPA funded position would be developed. Following approval of the new position the Community Health Coordinator and Administrative positions would be filled, along with the establishment of an office space and procurement of a vehicle and equipment. This position would collaborate closely both with the Police Department and existing organizations in the community and region. Implementation of this new program would be monitored and assessed before expiration of the funding in 2026.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

**9. Status: City Manager Recommendation: INCLUDED**



**6. Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**

As outlined in the Department of Treasury’s Interim Final Rule, “Children’s economic and family circumstances have a long-term impact in their future economic outcomes. Increases in economic hardship, material insecurity, and parental stress and behavioral health challenges all raise the risk of long-term harms to today’s children due to the pandemic”. New or expanded high-quality childcare to provide safe and supportive care for children is an ARPA eligible service to address these challenges.

**7. Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): Utilizing ARPA funds, the City would provide the facility and startup costs. Program tuition would provide ongoing financial support into the future, and would be structured to support enrollment for low to moderate income families. Enrollment would be open to City employees and community members. Existing facility options have already been identified which would be developed further by the feasibility study before pursuing remodeling and construction. Project analysis would determine if the program would be established as City operated and managed or in partnership with an external provider. Analysis on integrating this program with existing City & Recreation programs will be explored, such as opportunities for developing intergenerational programs to benefit both children and seniors. A board of directors would be established in either management structure to work with the program’s director to oversee operations, with opportunities for participating parents to serve on the board.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

**9. Status:City Manager Recommendation: INCLUDED**





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1. **Department:** Finance, Human Resources                      **Department Head:** Katie Ambrose
2. **Project Name:** Employee Premium Pay
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** No
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$92,000 under ARPA expenditure section 5 Premium Pay.
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): These funds would provide additional premium pay support to the City of Rochester's essential workers. One-time stipends would recognize their contributions to the City during the COVID-19 public health emergency while putting their physical well-being at risk.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**  
While 106 of Rochester's first responders received stipends in June 2020 as funded by the CARES Act, numerous City employees did not qualify who also experienced increased health risks due to their job functions. These stipends would recognize the City of Rochester's essential workers, whose dedication enabled continuity of operations and supported the City's response to the public health emergency.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): Finance and Human Resources staff will work with departments and legal counsel to implement a stipend allocation process compliant with the Treasury guidance. This request would fund \$1,000 stipends and applicable taxes for employees performing essential functions whose positions were required to be physically present at their jobsite and/or were at heightened risk due to COVID-19. Identified positions are located in the following departments and divisions: Dispatch, Public

Buildings & Grounds, Tax Office, City Clerk's Office, Water, Wastewater, Welfare, Public Works & Highways.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

**9. Status:City Manager Recommendation: INCLUDED**



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### AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL

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1. **Department:** Public Works **Department Head:** Peter C. Nourse, PE
2. **Project Name:** Water Transmission Main Lining
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** Partially funded in FY22 Water CIP
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$1,600,000 (Total project cost is \$2M; FY22 Water CIP included \$400k funding for this project). DPW would be open to deauthorizing the FY22 \$400,000 funding, if the full \$2,000,000 were funded from the ARPA funding.
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): The Surface Water Treatment Plant (WTP) supplies treated water to the distribution system via a 20-inch diameter 1890's vintage cast iron transmission main and a 24-inch ductile iron transmission main installed in 1985. This project will rehabilitate the approximately 12,000 feet of the aged 20-inch main between the WTP and Washington Street. A spray-in-place pipe (SIPP) lining repair process will result in an epoxy coated transmission main, that will repair leaks and eliminate water quality concerns due to pipe corrosion. This rehabilitation process will significantly extend the life of the transmission main.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:** Quality drinking water is vital to the health of all of Rochester's water customers, critical for the support of first responders, and essential for human recovery from any illness. This project will help to ensure the continued delivery of quality drinking water to Rochester's water customers.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): This project will be publicly bid, however there are a limited number of specialty contractors that can perform this type of work. The 20-inch main will need to be out of service during the rehabilitation, so the contractor will need to coordinate closely with City staff and may be limited

as to the times of year that this work can be performed. The SIPP process will address approximately 500 foot lengths of main at one time. The SIPP process will require much less out of service time than other rehabilitation methods, such as complete excavation and replacement. At the time that the FY22 budget was proposed by the Department, full project costs were not fully known. The FY22 appropriation will only fund a small portion of the complete project; and, it is recommended that the full project be completed at once for cost and procurement efficiencies, as well as realizing the full water quality benefit and the timeliness related to other projects mentioned below.

8. **Supplemental Information** (Note if attached): This 20-inch transmission main traverses cross-country areas that are not easy to access for repairs or replacement. The SIPP process is an economical approach to maintaining the City's infrastructure, improving water quality, reducing leaks, and extending the useful life of this vital transmission main. The Washington Street Booster Pump Station draws water from this 20-inch main. The Route 202A Water Tank and Water Main Extension project will be served from the Washington Street Booster Pump Station; therefore, the water quality in the City's new water tank and the 202A water main will be directly impacted by improved water quality in the 20-inch main. DPW also plans to relocate the bulk water haulers' filling station in the coming months to the area near the Washington Street Booster Pump Station, coincident with the DPW move from Old Dover Road to Chestnut Hill Road. Improved water quality from the 20-inch main will also directly impact our bulk water sales. The timing is right to complete this necessary improvement to the oldest infrastructure in the City's water distribution system.

9. **Status: City Manager Recommendation: INCLUDED**



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**1. Department:**

Recreation and Arena – ARENA Request

**Department Head:**

Chris Bowlen

**2. Project Name:**

Replace lost revenues suffered as result of the Covid-19 Pandemic

**3. Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:**

**4. Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs):

Using guidance given in the ARPA, a request of funding to replace the estimated lost revenues for the ARENA Fund for the Fiscal Year 2021 = **\$129,815**

**5. Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly):

Replace lost revenues suffered.

**6. Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**

This action would bring the revenues in-line with what was the average over fiscal years 17, 18 & 19 and support the ARENA fund as a Special Revenue Fund.

**7. Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist):

FY21 Budget revenue adjustment.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

Details are attached.

**9. Status: City Manager Recommendation: INCLUDED**

## ARPA Funding Request - Detail of Revenue Loss

### ARENA

	<i><b>FY 17,18,19 avg</b></i>	<i><b>FY21</b></i>	<i><b>COVID Impact</b></i>
General Sales	\$ 27,885	\$ 2,625	\$ (25,260)
Skate Rentals	\$ 1,132	\$ -	\$ (1,132)
Vending Machine Food	\$ 193	\$ -	\$ (193)
Vending Machine Soda	\$ 1,112	\$ -	\$ (1,112)
Dasher Ads	\$ 11,308	\$ 6,450	\$ (4,858)
Under Ice Ads	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,000
Ice Contracts	\$ 284,248	\$ 228,654	\$ (55,594)
Adult House League	\$ 34,373	\$ -	\$ (34,373)
Learn to Skate	\$ 4,668	\$ 1,022	\$ (3,646)
Misc Programs	\$ 8,898	\$ 4,300	\$ (4,598)
Snackbar Lease	\$ 1,116	\$ 1,068	\$ (48)
Recreation Dept Lease	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Totals	\$ 386,434	\$ 256,619	\$ (129,815) -34%

## ARPA Funding Request - Detail of Revenue Loss

### RECREATION

	<i><b>FY 17,18,19 avg</b></i>	<i><b>FY21</b></i>	<i><b>COVID Impact</b></i>
Yth B-ball	\$ 18,396	\$ 5,800	\$ (12,596)
Adult B-ball	\$ 5,707	\$ -	\$ (5,707)
Camp - Summer	\$ 59,564	\$ -	\$ (59,564)
HP Swim	\$ 6,142	\$ -	\$ (6,142)
Gonic Swim	\$ 4,283	\$ -	\$ (4,283)
ER Swim	\$ 1,870	\$ -	\$ (1,870)
Toddler	\$ 57	\$ -	\$ (57)
Tennis	\$ 598	\$ -	\$ (598)
Volleyball	\$ 5,465	\$ 580	\$ (4,885)
Camp - Vacation	\$ 3,363	\$ -	\$ (3,363)
Other Rental Income	\$ 11,676	\$ 9,040	\$ (2,636)
Vending	\$ 1,666	\$ -	\$ (1,666)
Misc	\$ 196	\$ -	\$ (196)
Other income	\$ 1,460	\$ -	\$ (1,460)
Totals	\$ 120,442	\$ 15,420	\$ (105,022) -87%



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**1. Department:**

Recreation and Arena – RECREATION Request

**Department Head:**

Chris Bowlen

**2. Project Name:**

Replace lost revenues suffered as result of the Covid-19 Pandemic

**3. Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:**

No

**4. Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs):

Using guidance given in the ARPA, a request of funding to replace the estimated lost revenues for the RECREATION Fund for the Fiscal Year 2021 = **\$105,022**

**5. Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly):

Replace lost revenues suffered.

**6. Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**

This action would bring the revenues in-line with what was the average over fiscal years 17, 18 & 19 and support the RECREATION General Fund.

**7. Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist):

FY21 Budget revenue adjustment.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

Details are attached.

**9. Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**

## ARPA Funding Request - Detail of Revenue Loss

### ARENA

	<i><b>FY 17,18,19 avg</b></i>	<i><b>FY21</b></i>	<i><b>COVID Impact</b></i>
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**1. Department:**

Economic Development (ED)

**Department Head:**

Michael Scala

**2. Project Name:**

Development of Affordable Housing

**3. Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:**

No

**4. Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs):

ED is requesting a lump sum of **\$1,500,000** to have available for the purchase of property within the City targeting the future development of affordable housing.

**5. Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly):

There are a number of parcels throughout our downtown and the City that are prime candidates for residential/commercial redevelopment. Having acquisition funding in place would allow ED to search out properties and approach owners that may not otherwise even be thinking of a sale.

The goal is to gain control of these parcels and market them to a developer who would have to adhere to our Developer's Agreement (DA). The DA would have an affordable aspect to the residential development allow with any other requirements that Staff and Council would like to add.

These funds would allow us much needed flexibility during the search and negotiation process.

**6. Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**

Under the *Building Stronger Communities through Investments in Housing and Neighborhoods* section (pg. 39) of the Interim Rules for the American Rescue Plan, one of the bullet points of the Plan is "Affordable housing development to increase supply of affordable and high-quality living units". One of the easiest ways for the City to promote the development of more affordable units is to the control the land and include a DA requiring a portion of the development be offered as "affordable\*".

**7. Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist):

The Council would pre-approve an amount for ED to utilize for property acquisition. This would allow us to negotiate within a set range.

Approval by the CC of any deal would be required, but the pre-established flexibility within the appropriation would allow ED to work out an acceptable proposal between the City and the Seller.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

none

**9. Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**

\*Whether we use HUD or NHHFA's definition would need to be determined. The general definition of "affordable" is any housing that requires no more than 30% of household income per month.



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**1. Department: Economic Development**

**Department Head:** Michael Scala

**2. Project Name:** ED Analytics

**3. Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** No

**4. Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs):

- Funding requested: \$280,000
- Annual carrying costs: \$10,000

**5. Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly):

Create a data repository and reporting environment to support the economic recovery and growth in the City of Rochester. This would require a baseline analysis of the current data available, creation of a comprehensive list of desired reportable metrics, and development of both interchange formats and/or automated integrations for continuous input of available data. Potentially, interim solutions including manual data acquisition and entry as a proof of concept, followed by more long term solutions like data connections to City or publicly available data sources as can be used, would be the path towards having a comprehensive array of available data.

**6. Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**

This proposal responds to the SLFRP Fact sheet, page 4, stating the following:

*Rebuilding public sector capacity, by rehiring public sector staff and replenishing unemployment insurance (UI) trust funds, in each case up to pre-pandemic levels. Recipients may also use this funding to build their internal capacity to successfully implement economic relief programs, with investments in data analysis, targeted outreach, technology infrastructure, and impact evaluations.*

With the onset of COVID-19, Economic Development came to a realization that there were many deficits in available data that could be used to support the developers and current businesses in the City.

This project will enable our staff to drive economic success in easily consumed visual reports, drill into details, create impromptu analyses based on a foundation of data, and continuously assess metrics. Initially, we anticipate the ability to answer questions like the following:

- Number of affordable units and number of bedrooms
- Locations of units
- Type of units (subsidized, workforce, market, above-market)
- Vacancy rate (residential)
- Age of units (building)
- Approved units for construction
- Business closures (Covid related)
- Business downturns (Covid related)
- Vacancy rate (commercial)
- Commercial lease rates (pre/post Covid)

In doing so, the City can create an environment that attracts businesses, reduces unoccupied commercial location and increases development within the City. These will then create jobs, bring in revenue, and add to the diversity of services within the City.

**7. Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist):

This project is presented in two phases, with the first determining the viability of the continuation to successful completion. Note that phase 2 is not requested in the first round of funding.

- Phase 1 Project definition and discovery sessions \$30,000
  - Define outcomes
  - Determine data required and quality of available data
  - Create report on viability of project and draft plan for implementation
- Phase 2 Implementation \$250,000
  - Plan Refinement
  - Data collection, database determination and configuration
  - Data evaluation, reporting structure staging
  - User onboarding, training, report refinement

The City of Rochester acknowledges that there are many available solutions and avenues for building a data repository and reporting environment. Phase 1 funding is intended to hire an outside consultant for guidance to define our overall goals and how to achieve them, including identifying and defining data requirements. This will allow us to define parameters, such as server storage and processing, needed to complete the next step of building the data repository. A consultant will be able

to identify potential barriers, review data requirements, and provide a suggested format for this project.

The culmination of phase 1 would be a determination of the viability of completing a successful data reporting environment for the City, with an initial focus on Economic Development metrics.

Assuming a positive response to phase 1, phase 2 would start with refining the plan. Next, the technical work behind creating the data and reporting environments would take place (bullets 2 and 3 under phase 2). Consultants would be brought in as needed during these portions of the project's implementation.

Data availability for the Rochester area can be limited and may require that data be manually collected for it to be relevant to the City of Rochester.

Reporting software and licensing will be made available to appropriate City staff. The analytics engine would support economic recovery and growth strategies based on data and analysis. Reporting will allow staff to present clear and consistent metrics to City Council, commercial developers, and the public, and support decision making related to their efforts.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

**9. Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL**

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

1. **Department:** Public Works **Department Head:** Peter C. Nourse, PE
2. **Project Name:** Cocheco Well Treatment Upgrades
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** No, although Water CIP funding has been proposed for FY23, FY24, and FY25.
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$5,600,000
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): The Cocheco Well (Well 1) is currently pumped to a treatment facility that includes aeration, pH and alkalinity adjustment, and chemical addition of chlorine, fluoride, sodium bicarbonate, and blended polyphosphate. Although the 2008 conceptual basis of design report for the Well 1 Treatment Plant included iron and manganese removal treatment systems, these were not included in the final design or construction due to lower levels in initial sampling of Well 1. Since 2015, Well 1 has been in more regular use and levels of iron and manganese have been higher than initial tests had indicated. This project proposes to add iron and manganese removal treatment through pressure filtration and recycle to the Well 1 Treatment Plant, including increasing the size of the facility to accommodate these new treatment systems.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:** Quality drinking water is vital to the health of all of Rochester's water customers, critical for the support of first responders, and essential for human recovery from any illness. This project will help to ensure the continued delivery of quality drinking water to Rochester's water customers.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): This project will be designed by one of the City's on-call engineering consultants and publicly bid for construction. In December 2020, the State of NH revised the ambient groundwater

quality standard (AGQS) for manganese to 0.30 mg/l, which is an enforceable standard for public water systems. That standard may render Well 1 out of compliance and/or require public notification due to current levels of manganese. To ensure compliance with drinking water standards and the continued availability of this vital well water source for supplying water to our distribution system, it is recommended that the design of this treatment upgrade begin as soon as possible, so that the construction can be completed at the earliest possible date. At the time that the FY22 budget was proposed by the Department, it was not fully understood when the State of NH would act on the manganese standard.

8. **Supplemental Information** (Note if attached): Recent water quality samples from Well 1 have indicated results for iron that slightly exceed the secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) of 0.3 mg/l and results for manganese that exceed the SMCL of 0.05 mg/l, both of which may result in aesthetic concerns such as staining of plumbing fixtures or laundry. The results for manganese have also slightly exceeded the State's proposed public notification level of 0.1 mg/l. The timing is right to complete this necessary treatment upgrade that was originally contemplated in 2008.

9. **Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

1. **Department:** Public Works **Department Head:** Peter C. Nourse, PE
2. **Project Name:** Round Pond Capacity Augmentation
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** Partially funded in two Water CIP accounts: FY20 Round Pond Augmentation & FY22 Round Pond Augmentation.
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$1,000,000 (Total project cost is \$2M; FY20 Water CIP has \$478k available and FY22 Water CIP included \$500k funding for this project).
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): A 2014 Feasibility Study found that increasing the surface elevation of the Round Pond Reservoir by 5-10 feet is a viable option to increase the safe yield of the City's surface water supply system. Discussions with regulators in recent years has resulted in a conceptualized project to raise the level of Round Pond Reservoir by 8 feet. This funding request is to supplement existing appropriations for negotiated easement compensation and property improvements, permitting, legal expenses, and design services related to the construction of two dikes and a spillway. Future additional funding will be required for the actual construction costs.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:** Quality drinking water is vital to the health of all of Rochester's water customers, critical for the support of first responders, and essential for human recovery from any illness. This project will help to ensure the continued delivery of quality drinking water to Rochester's water customers.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): This project will be designed by one of the City's on-call engineering consultants. Negotiations with abutters is on-going and supported by legal counsel, professional appraisal services,



and engineering consultants. At the time that the FY22 budget was proposed by the Department, the full scope and cost of this project was not fully understood; since that time, negotiations with abutters has progressed and our engineering consultants are preparing for next steps in design and permitting.

8. **Supplemental Information** (Note if attached): A 2020 Water Audit Report indicated that annual average day demand of the City's water system will exceed the existing water supply capacity in 10-15 years. The firm yield of Rochester's water supplies must be increased to stay ahead of projected demand growth. In 2016, a Water Supply Evaluation was conducted that recommended that the City should, at a minimum, develop additional source capacity of 0.65 MGD. That evaluation concluded that raising the level of Round Pond is the most economical option to obtain additional source capacity. Beyond the requested and previously appropriated funding, it is estimated that the construction of the two dikes and spillway could exceed \$5,000,000.

9. **Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL**

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

1. **Department:** Public Works **Department Head:** Peter C. Nourse, PE
2. **Project Name:** WTP Electrical Upgrades
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** Partially funded in two Water CIP accounts: FY19 WTP Main Generator Replacement & FY22 WTP Electrical Service/Main Switchgear Upgrade.
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$1,650,000 (Total project cost is \$2.1M; FY19 Water CIP included \$200k and FY22 Water CIP included \$250k funding for this project). DPW would be open to deauthorizing the FY19 and FY22 funding, if the full \$2,100,000 were funded from the ARPA funding.
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): The main electrical supply, service disconnects, and main generator at the Surface Water Treatment Plant (WTP) are original to the 1984 WTP Upgrade. Corrosion is evident on several of the components; the generator exerciser circuit is malfunctioning; and, safety and efficiency standards have improved from the original design. This project will include the replacement and upgrade of the main switchgear at the incoming service connection, the automatic transfer switch, the existing generator, motor control centers (MCC), lighting panels, transformers, and all related components.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:** Quality drinking water is vital to the health of all of Rochester's water customers, critical for the support of first responders, and essential for human recovery from any illness. This project will help to ensure the continued delivery of quality drinking water to Rochester's water customers.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): This project will be designed by one of the City's on-call engineering consultants and

publicly bid for construction. At the time that the FY22 budget was proposed by the Department, the full scope and cost of this project was not fully understood; since that time, results of an engineering consultant's evaluation have revealed the need for a more extensive project scope, the cost of which will significantly exceed the appropriated budgets. The project costs include temporary power, which will be provided in a controlled coordinated manner during equipment replacement.

8. **Supplemental Information** (Note if attached): This project would remove the existing diesel generator from inside the building and replace it with an external propane generator. The existing generator space would be repurposed for replacement electrical equipment, which has additional space requirements under current code. This project was recommended by the 2019 Energy Evaluation to increase efficiency and reliability of power supply equipment. This project will improve equipment longevity through cleaner power delivery and surge suppression, integrate intelligent energy management for the campus, and improve efficiency of building electrical distribution. The smaller form factor switchgear at the Low Lift Pump Station was previously upgraded for the same reasons. This critical power supply equipment is necessary for the continued 24-hour operation of the WTP, which ensures uninterrupted water is supplied to the City's water distribution system.

9. **Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL**

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

**1. Department:** Public Works

**Department Head:** Peter C. Nourse, PE

**2. Project Name:** WWTF Carbon Storage & Sludge Dewatering Buildings

**3. Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** Partially funded in FY20 Sewer CIP

**4. Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$2,000,000 (approximately \$1.1M available in FY20 Sewer CIP funding for this project). The total cost to complete these buildings is not fully known, however it is anticipated to cost \$3M or more given the current status of these buildings and the current cost of construction.

**5. Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): The Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is now required to treat for nitrogen, which the Carbon Storage & Feed Building is designed to support. Regular loads of acetic acid (a carbon source for the nitrification/denitrification processes) are received at the WWTF; a means to store this carbon source and meter it into the treatment process at the proper dose is necessary for improved nitrogen treatment. This Carbon Storage & Feed Building will meet this need. The WWTF has also been accumulating sludge in its lagoons for decades, as the natural processes that were initially expected to break down this sludge have not been realized. The lagoons are being filled with sludge to a point where their usefulness as equalization basins during periods of excessive influent (due mainly to inflow/infiltration during rain events) has been diminished. As sludge levels rise above the water level in the lagoons, odor issues are also rising. In order to remove the sludge from the lagoons, the sludge must be dewatered for transport to WM. The Sludge Dewatering Building will meet this need. These two buildings were bid as one project and construction progressed until the contractor's construction contract was terminated by the City. The City will be completing construction of these buildings with another contractor.

- 6. Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:** Proper treatment of sewage is vital to the health of all of Rochester's sewer customers, critical for the support of first responders, and essential for human recovery from any illness. This project will help to ensure the continued proper treatment of sewage for Rochester's sewer customers.
- 7. Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): It is likely that the completion of this project will be difficult to publicly bid, however the City may be able to negotiate with the other contractor that originally bid on this project to complete the construction for the City. The selected contractor will need to coordinate closely with City staff and its engineering consultant to ensure successful completion of this project. The Carbon Storage & Feed Building is closer to completion and the need for this building to meet permit requirements results in this being a higher priority for completion; however, the Sludge Dewatering Building is also necessary to facilitate the removal of sludge from the lagoons as soon as practicable. The remaining available FY20 Sewer CIP funds will very likely not be sufficient to complete the construction of both of these buildings; and, a Supplemental Appropriation will be need if other funds are not available for the completion of this vital project.
- 8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached): The City has entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the USEPA; as part of that AOC, the City is required to complete the Carbon Storage & Feed Building by October 31, 2022. The AOC also requires the City to evaluate the efficacy of the project and report results in a Nitrogen Reduction Report by October 31, 2024. The City has further agreed to a Settlement Agreement with CLF that commits the City to consider, plan for, and implement measures that reduce nitrogen in its WWTF effluent. The completion of the Carbon Storage & Feed Building will help to meet this commitment.
- 9. Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL**

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

1. **Department:** Public Works **Department Head:** Peter C. Nourse, PE
2. **Project Name:** WWTF Secondary Clarifier Upgrades
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** Partially funded in FY22 Sewer CIP
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$950,000 (Total project cost is \$1.3M; FY22 Sewer CIP included \$350k funding for this project). DPW would be open to deauthorizing the FY22 \$350,000 funding, if the full \$1,300,000 were funded from the ARPA funding.
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): The Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) has treatment processes that include three (3) secondary clarifiers. The mechanisms in these clarifiers include a center column, drive, platform, bridge, weirs, and baffles. These mechanisms are nearing the end of their useful life and are in need of replacement. To reduce future maintenance requirements and prolong the useful life of these mechanisms, as well as the clarifiers themselves, replacement components are proposed to be constructed of stainless steel. Properly functioning secondary clarifiers are necessary for the proper treatment of wastewater at the WWTF.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:** Proper treatment of sewage is vital to the health of all of Rochester's sewer customers, critical for the support of first responders, and essential for human recovery from any illness. This project will help to ensure the continued proper treatment of sewage for Rochester's sewer customers.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): This project is planned to be publicly bid. The selected contractor will need to coordinate closely with City staff to ensure successful completion of this project, as only one clarifier will be able to be out of service for maintenance at a time. At the time that the FY22 Sewer CIP budget

was proposed by the Department, it was projected that these secondary clarifiers would be rehabilitated at a rate of one per year to spread costs over three fiscal years. Funding the upgrades for all three secondary clarifiers as once will allow for cost and procurement efficiencies, as well as realizing the full benefits of reduced O&M expenses related to these clarifiers earlier.

8. **Supplemental Information** (Note if attached): Annual Operations & Maintenance costs related to these secondary clarifiers continue to rise as the mechanisms continue to degrade.

9. **Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL**

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

- 1. Department:** Planning/Code **Department Head:** Contact: Shanna B. Saunders
- 2. Project Name:** COVID Building Deferred Maintenance Catch-up Program
- 3. Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** No
- 4. Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): In order to complete analysis for 100 properties and provide grants to 20% of those.
  - a. Assessing data analysis – \$5000
  - b. Building Permit analysis - \$8000 paper data recovery + \$8000 Digital data recovery (potentially update Open Gov for future data processing) = \$16,000.
  - c. Field inspections – \$15,000
  - d. Rubric draft and analytics- \$15,000
  - e. Grants for building work: \$250, 000

TOTAL: \$301,000

- 5. Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): During the COVID pandemic many small business owners spent most of their waking hours trying to keep their business afloat. This included transitioning to a digital economy, marketing changes and navigating federal funding programs, all while trying to keep their families safe and their kids in a remote learning setting. For these reasons, often times, maintenance of the building the business was located in, was deferred. Still today, with the economy in some segments not back up to pre-pandemic levels, further maintenance is being deferred. In Rochester, many these buildings in our 3 economic centers are historic and potentially part of the urban fabric of landscape and architecture. This project would provide funds to analyze data surrounding deferred maintenance to these downtown buildings, employ targeted outreach to inform building owners what maintenance is recommended and provide potential grant money to



help fund the deferred maintenance. Eligible businesses would be those facing financial insecurity, substantial declines in gross receipts (e.g., comparable to measures used to assess eligibility for the Paycheck Protection Program), or other economic harm due to the pandemic, as well as businesses with less capacity to weather financial hardship.

City staff will oversee gathering of data associated with downtown buildings including building age, and building permit history. Items such as roof, window, sign and façade maintenance will be identified. Buildings will be prioritized by greatest need and outreach will be targeted to those highly prioritized buildings first. Programs identified for actual maintenance costs include façade grant programs and may include further ARP funding for creation of affordable housing in underutilized upper stories of existing downtown buildings.

**6. Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:** These funds will help identify and prioritize building and infrastructure maintenance that was put on hold by our Downtown’s business owners. These funds will help downtown business owners with their maintenance responsibilities and provide technical assistance to business owners to obtain additional funding to help cover maintenance costs. In the long run, this will help protect the ageing building stock of our City’s economic centers and allow the businesses to focus on making their businesses successful.

**7. Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist):

- a. The first step of this project is data analysis of existing building permit data over 10 years. This will help determine what has been done for maintenance to a building in the last 10 years and what hasn’t. This is a desk project completed by a data entry processor.
- b. Determination of need is the next step and is a combination of the results of analysis and an inspection of the building. The building inspection will be cursory and include roof, windows& doors, and façade including porches, stairs, shutters, and signs.
- c. Consultant helps draft a Prioritization Rubric to help determine prioritization and need.
- d. Buildings will be prioritized.
- e. Outreach to property owners during this process for compete cooperation and investment into the program is a must. After the initial desk analysis, will not work with properties in which do not want to participate.

- f. The final step is a grant or grant/match program for high priority buildings that need some funding for deferred maintenance. Potentially the grant may issue as a low income loan with the payments deferred as long as the business is in operation.

**8 Supplemental Information** (Note if attached):

**9 Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**



## Office of Finance & Budget Management

### AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING PROPOSAL

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This form is a tool to provide policy makers a quick easy to read analysis of important issues pertaining to American Rescue Plan funding. Departments are to complete this form for any projects believed to be eligible under American Rescue Plan funding.

1. **Department:** N/A                      **Department Head:** N/A
2. **Project Name:** Champlin Place
3. **Is the Project Already Appropriated in O&M or CIP:** No
4. **Funding Requested:** (Identify funding amount, or change of funding if already appropriated, multi-year components and any annual carrying costs): \$750,000 under ARPA expenditure category 3.10 Housing Support – Affordable Housing.
5. **Description of Project** (Describe the project clearly & succinctly): These funds were requested by Easterseals to support the development of a 65-unit supportive senior housing project at their Rochester Hill Road site. Presently, the projected development budget for Champlin Place is \$16 million. Of that amount they have secured initial awards (pending final actions) of \$15 million, leaving a \$963,000 gap. An American Rescue Plan award of \$750,000 would help assure the project's ability to move forward with construction commencing in the first quarter of 2022.
6. **Benefits Related to COVID-19 Response, or Recovery:**  
Affordable housing development to increase supply of affordable, supportive living units.
7. **Implementation Details** (Briefly describe how this project will be implemented, and if any potential barriers exist): Funds allocated for this project would be transferred to Easterseals as a subrecipient of ARPA funds to carry out the project on behalf of the City with the City's Federal award funding. The City would be responsible for monitoring and overseeing Easterseals' use of the funds to ensure compliance, as well as reporting to Treasury on their use of the funds for the duration of the award.

**8. Supplemental Information** (Note if attached): Please see attached for a concept plan provided by Easterseals.

**9. Status: City Manager Recommendation: EXCLUDED**

## Champlin Place...

*a high quality supported residential environment for Older Adults in Rochester and Strafford County*

### Introduction/Mission

Building upon the legacy of the Champlin family, Strafford County Homemakers, and countless advocates for senior care, EasterSeals NH is proud to present this preliminary concept plan for the transformation of an extraordinary 140-acre parcel of land into a master planned campus of affordable housing, supportive services and recreational amenities designed to serve Rochester and Strafford County residents seeking to age with dignity in a supported residential community.

Our goal is to provide high quality, sustainable housing options (60-80 units) older adults with incomes ranging from 30-80% of the area median income (approx. \$20k to \$70K), together with an array of optional support services that will enable seniors to “age in place”, without resorting to potentially avoidable, more costly institutional settings which are often less desirable and less well suited to the interests of seniors in our community. While these apartments serve as the foundation of the development plan, our vision offers far more than housing as community benefit. Indeed, by partnering with the NH Forest Society, we propose to convey approximately 120 pristine acres of land for the preservation and expansion of the community trail network known as the William H Chaplin Jr. Forest. Further, we propose to explore the development of community gardens adjacent to the proposed housing development, and the potential rehabilitation of the existing EasterSeals service center as a resource for the education of graduate and undergraduate students from nearby UNH, a potential source of employment for professional service providers, and a locus for the delivery of resident services to older adults in Rochester and Strafford County.

A bold vision indeed, and a vision that will only succeed with the strong support of key stakeholders in the broader Rochester community.

### The Development Team

The bold vision expressed for Champlin Place requires a development team with both the skills and the experience necessary to achieve those high expectations for generations to come. In response, EasterSeals NH has assembled a team of New Hampshire’s most qualified professionals, as summarized below.

- ❖ Developer/Owner/Manager... EasterSeals NH, founded in 1936 and serving more than 28,000 NH residents each year, EasterSeals has a clearly aligned mission, a deep reservoir of talent within its senior management ranks, and the demonstrated commitment to see this project through completion.

- ❖ Development Advisor... Development Synergies LLC has provided advisory services to a range of independent and supported housing developments across New England, resulting in the construction or redevelopment of more than 6,000 units of housing.
- ❖ Market Square Architects... one of NH's fastest growing design firms, licensed to practice in 25 states across the nation, with deep experience with market rate and affordable senior housing, both independent and assisted living.
- ❖ Norway Plans, Civil Engineer... a trusted and highly experienced civil engineering firm, with deep roots in the Rochester community and decades of experience in creative and sustainable land development.

### Financing Plan

The Champlin Place Financial Plan is currently being developed in parallel with the design/development plan, the identification of market and affordability goals, and a clearer understanding of community resources. However, we do anticipate success in securing significant NHHFA resources and private investment through the syndication of Low Income Tax Credits, Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston capital, the participation of local financial institutions and other traditional housing resources. Perhaps the biggest unknown, at this point in time, is capital funding for the significant off-site infrastructure investment which may be required to ensure long term public services (e.g. public water/sewer) along Health Care Drive. Based upon preliminary discussions with the City of Rochester, we estimate those off-site costs could range from \$500k-750k, with no clear path for funding. We hope to discuss funding options with the Rochester Community Development Committee, (CDBG, TIF, HUD 108, etc. ).

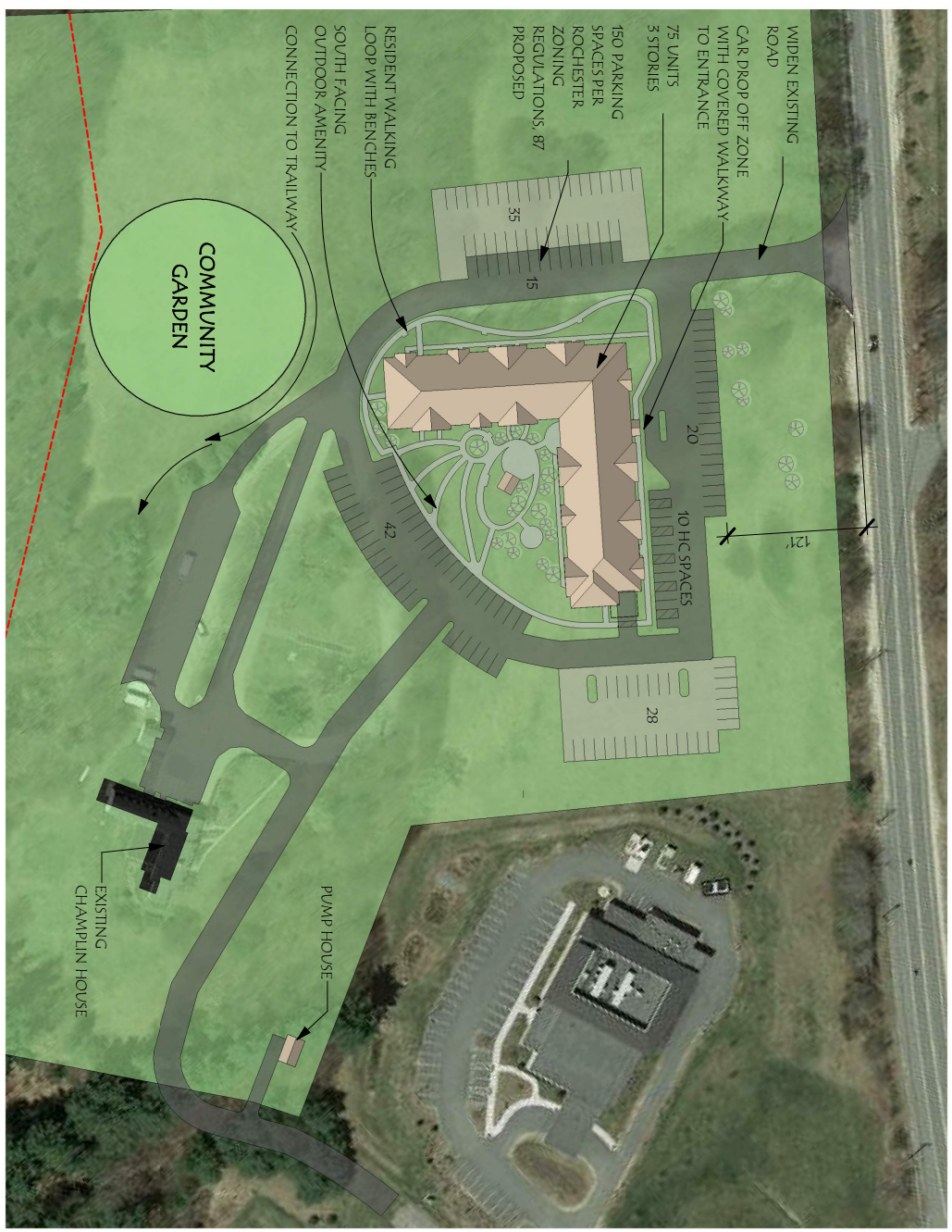
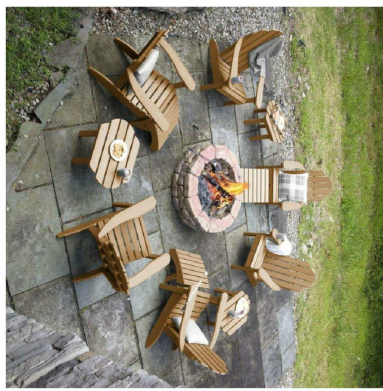
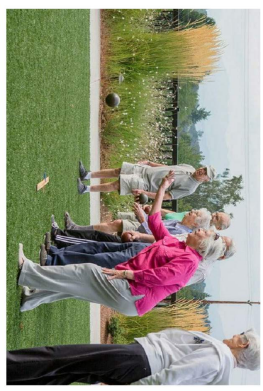
### Community Benefits

In brief, we believe this extraordinary new supported housing campus, will provide a unique range of community benefits, including:

- ❖ 60-80 affordable, supportive apartments for older adults... not currently available in Rochester
- ❖ 120 acres of conservation land, an expanded trail network, including accessible trails adding to the existing SPNHF Champlin Forest, for a total of approximately 300 acres.
- ❖ Community gardens accessible to both older individuals and the broader community.
- ❖ Preserve/enhance the existing EasterSeals service center and explore new educational and employment relationships with UNH graduate and undergraduate programs in disciplines focused on senior health care and other services such as forestry, horticulture and recreation.
- ❖ Expand economic development opportunities along Health Care Drive

# Introducing Champlin Place by EasterSeals NH.....

*An affordable, supported residential environment for Rochester & Strafford County Seniors*



① SITE PLAN  
1/4" = 100'-0"





# FACT SHEET: The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Will Deliver \$350 Billion for State, Local, Territorial, and Tribal Governments to Respond to the COVID-19 Emergency and Bring Back Jobs

**May 10, 2021**

*Aid to state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments will help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery*

Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. Treasury also released details on how these funds can be used to respond to acute pandemic response needs, fill revenue shortfalls among these governments, and support the communities and populations hardest-hit by the COVID-19 crisis. With the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, eligible jurisdictions will be able to access this funding in the coming days to address these needs.

State, local, territorial, and Tribal governments have been on the frontlines of responding to the immense public health and economic needs created by this crisis – from standing up vaccination sites to supporting small businesses – even as these governments confronted revenue shortfalls during the downturn. As a result, these governments have endured unprecedented strains, forcing many to make untenable choices between laying off educators, firefighters, and other frontline workers or failing to provide other services that communities rely on. Faced with these challenges, state and local governments have cut over 1 million jobs since the beginning of the crisis. The experience of prior economic downturns has shown that budget pressures like these often result in prolonged fiscal austerity that can slow an economic recovery.

To support the immediate pandemic response, bring back jobs, and lay the groundwork for a strong and equitable recovery, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, designed to deliver \$350 billion to state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to bolster their response to the COVID-19 emergency and its economic impacts. Today, Treasury is launching this much-needed relief to:

- Support urgent COVID-19 response efforts to continue to decrease spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control;
- Replace lost public sector revenue to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs;
- Support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses; and,
- Address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the unequal impact of the pandemic on certain populations.

The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide substantial flexibility for each jurisdiction to meet local needs—including support for households, small businesses, impacted industries, essential workers, and the communities hardest-hit by the crisis. These funds also deliver resources that recipients can invest in building, maintaining, or upgrading their water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.



Starting today, eligible state, territorial, metropolitan city, county, and Tribal governments may request Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds through the Treasury Submission Portal. Concurrent with this program launch, Treasury has published an Interim Final Rule that implements the provisions of this program.

## **FUNDING AMOUNTS**

The American Rescue Plan provides a total of \$350 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to help eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments meet their present needs and build the foundation for a strong recovery. Congress has allocated this funding to tens of thousands of jurisdictions. These allocations include:

<b>Type</b>	<b>Amount (\$ billions)</b>
States & District of Columbia	\$195.3
Counties	\$65.1
Metropolitan Cites	\$45.6
Tribal Governments	\$20.0
Territories	\$4.5
Non-Entitlement Units of Local Government	\$19.5

Treasury expects to distribute these funds directly to each state, territorial, metropolitan city, county, and Tribal government. Local governments that are classified as non-entitlement units will receive this funding through their applicable state government. Treasury expects to provide further guidance on distributions to non-entitlement units next week.

Local governments should expect to receive funds in two tranches, with 50% provided beginning in May 2021 and the balance delivered 12 months later. States that have experienced a net increase in the unemployment rate of more than 2 percentage points from February 2020 to the latest available data as of the date of certification will receive their full allocation of funds in a single payment; other states will receive funds in two equal tranches. Governments of U.S. territories will receive a single payment. Tribal governments will receive two payments, with the first payment available in May and the second payment, based on employment data, to be delivered in June 2021.

## **USES OF FUNDING**

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments with a substantial infusion of resources to meet pandemic response needs and rebuild a stronger, more equitable economy as the country recovers. Within the categories of eligible uses, recipients have broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities. Recipients may use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to:

- **Support public health expenditures**, by funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff;
- **Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency**, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector;
- **Replace lost public sector revenue**, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic;
- **Provide premium pay for essential workers**, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors; and,
- **Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure**, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet.

Within these overall categories, Treasury’s Interim Final Rule provides guidelines and principles for determining the types of programs and services that this funding can support, together with examples of allowable uses that recipients may consider. As described below, Treasury has also designed these provisions to take into consideration the disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency on those hardest-hit by the pandemic.

## 1. Supporting the public health response

Mitigating the impact of COVID-19 continues to require an unprecedented public health response from state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide resources to meet these needs through the provision of care for those impacted by the virus and through services that address disparities in public health that have been exacerbated by the pandemic. Recipients may use this funding to address a broad range of public health needs across COVID-19 mitigation, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and public health resources. Among other services, these funds can help support:

- **Services and programs to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including:**
  - ✓ Vaccination programs
  - ✓ Medical expenses
  - ✓ Testing
  - ✓ Contact tracing
  - ✓ Isolation or quarantine
  - ✓ PPE purchases
  - ✓ Support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services
  - ✓ Public health surveillance (e.g., monitoring for variants)
  - ✓ Enforcement of public health orders
  - ✓ Public communication efforts
  - ✓ Enhancement of healthcare capacity, including alternative care facilities
  - ✓ Support for prevention, mitigation, or other services in congregate living facilities and schools
  - ✓ Enhancement of public health data systems
  - ✓ Capital investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs
  - ✓ Ventilation improvements in key settings like healthcare facilities

- **Services to address behavioral healthcare needs exacerbated by the pandemic, including:**
  - ✓ Mental health treatment
  - ✓ Substance misuse treatment
  - ✓ Other behavioral health services
  - ✓ Hotlines or warmlines
  - ✓ Crisis intervention
  - ✓ Services or outreach to promote access to health and social services
- **Payroll and covered benefits expenses** for public health, healthcare, human services, public safety and similar employees, to the extent that they work on the COVID-19 response. For public health and safety workers, recipients can use these funds to cover the full payroll and covered benefits costs for employees or operating units or divisions primarily dedicated to the COVID-19 response.

## 2. **Addressing the negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency**

The COVID-19 public health emergency resulted in significant economic hardship for many Americans. As businesses closed, consumers stayed home, schools shifted to remote education, and travel declined precipitously, over 20 million jobs were lost between February and April 2020. Although many have since returned to work, as of April 2021, the economy remains more than 8 million jobs below its pre-pandemic peak, and more than 3 million workers have dropped out of the labor market altogether since February 2020.

To help alleviate the economic hardships caused by the pandemic, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds enable eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to provide a wide range of assistance to individuals and households, small businesses, and impacted industries, in addition to enabling governments to rehire public sector staff and rebuild capacity. Among these uses include:

- **Delivering assistance to workers and families**, including aid to unemployed workers and job training, as well as aid to households facing food, housing, or other financial insecurity. In addition, these funds can support survivor's benefits for family members of COVID-19 victims.
- **Supporting small businesses**, helping them to address financial challenges caused by the pandemic and to make investments in COVID-19 prevention and mitigation tactics, as well as to provide technical assistance. To achieve these goals, recipients may employ this funding to execute a broad array of loan, grant, in-kind assistance, and counseling programs to enable small businesses to rebound from the downturn.
- **Speeding the recovery of the tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors**, supporting industries that were particularly hard-hit by the COVID-19 emergency and are just now beginning to mend. Similarly impacted sectors within a local area are also eligible for support.
- **Rebuilding public sector capacity**, by rehiring public sector staff and replenishing unemployment insurance (UI) trust funds, in each case up to pre-pandemic levels. Recipients may also use this funding to build their internal capacity to successfully implement economic relief programs, with investments in data analysis, targeted outreach, technology infrastructure, and impact evaluations.

### 3. Serving the hardest-hit communities and families

While the pandemic has affected communities across the country, it has disproportionately impacted low-income families and communities of color and has exacerbated systemic health and economic inequities. Low-income and socially vulnerable communities have experienced the most severe health impacts. For example, counties with high poverty rates also have the highest rates of infections and deaths, with 223 deaths per 100,000 compared to the U.S. average of 175 deaths per 100,000.

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds allow for a broad range of uses to address the disproportionate public health and economic impacts of the crisis on the hardest-hit communities, populations, and households. Eligible services include:

- **Addressing health disparities and the social determinants of health**, through funding for community health workers, public benefits navigators, remediation of lead hazards, and community violence intervention programs;
- **Investments in housing and neighborhoods**, such as services to address individuals experiencing homelessness, affordable housing development, housing vouchers, and residential counseling and housing navigation assistance to facilitate moves to neighborhoods with high economic opportunity;
- **Addressing educational disparities** through new or expanded early learning services, providing additional resources to high-poverty school districts, and offering educational services like tutoring or afterschool programs as well as services to address social, emotional, and mental health needs; and,
- **Promoting healthy childhood environments**, including new or expanded high quality childcare, home visiting programs for families with young children, and enhanced services for child welfare-involved families and foster youth.

Governments may use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to support these additional services if they are provided:

- within a Qualified Census Tract (a low-income area as designated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development);
- to families living in Qualified Census Tracts;
- by a Tribal government; or,
- to other populations, households, or geographic areas disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

### 4. Replacing lost public sector revenue

State, local, territorial, and Tribal governments that are facing budget shortfalls may use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to avoid cuts to government services. With these additional resources, recipients can continue to provide valuable public services and ensure that fiscal austerity measures do not hamper the broader economic recovery.

Many state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments have experienced significant budget shortfalls, which can yield a devastating impact on their respective communities. Faced with budget shortfalls and pandemic-related uncertainty, state and local governments cut staff in all 50 states. These budget shortfalls and staff cuts are particularly problematic at present, as these entities are on the front lines of battling the COVID-19 pandemic and helping citizens weather the economic downturn.

Recipients may use these funds to replace lost revenue. Treasury's Interim Final Rule establishes a methodology that each recipient can use to calculate its reduction in revenue. Specifically, recipients will compute the extent of their reduction in revenue by comparing their actual revenue to an alternative representing what could have been expected to occur in the absence of the pandemic. Analysis of this expected trend begins with the last full fiscal year prior to the public health emergency and projects forward at either (a) the recipient's average annual revenue growth over the three full fiscal years prior to the public health emergency or (b) 4.1%, the national average state and local revenue growth rate from 2015-18 (the latest available data).

For administrative convenience, Treasury's Interim Final Rule allows recipients to presume that any diminution in actual revenue relative to the expected trend is due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Upon receiving Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, recipients may immediately calculate the reduction in revenue that occurred in 2020 and deploy funds to address any shortfall. Recipients will have the opportunity to re-calculate revenue loss at several points through the program, supporting those entities that experience a lagged impact of the crisis on revenues.

Importantly, once a shortfall in revenue is identified, recipients will have broad latitude to use this funding to support government services, up to this amount of lost revenue.

## **5. Providing premium pay for essential workers**

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide resources for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to recognize the heroic contributions of essential workers. Since the start of the public health emergency, essential workers have put their physical well-being at risk to meet the daily needs of their communities and to provide care for others.

Many of these essential workers have not received compensation for the heightened risks they have faced and continue to face. Recipients may use this funding to provide premium pay directly, or through grants to private employers, to a broad range of essential workers who must be physically present at their jobs including, among others:

- |                                                                                 |                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| ✓ Staff at nursing homes, hospitals, and home-care settings                     | ✓ Truck drivers, transit staff, and warehouse workers |
| ✓ Workers at farms, food production facilities, grocery stores, and restaurants | ✓ Childcare workers, educators, and school staff      |
| ✓ Janitors and sanitation workers                                               | ✓ Social service and human services staff             |
| ✓ Public health and safety staff                                                |                                                       |

Treasury's Interim Final Rule emphasizes the need for recipients to prioritize premium pay for lower income workers. Premium pay that would increase a worker's total pay above 150% of the greater of the state or county average annual wage requires specific justification for how it responds to the needs of these workers.

In addition, employers are both permitted and encouraged to use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to offer retrospective premium pay, recognizing that many essential workers have not yet received additional compensation for work performed. Staff working for third-party contractors in eligible sectors are also eligible for premium pay.

## **6. Investing in water and sewer infrastructure**

Recipients may use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to invest in necessary improvements to their water and sewer infrastructures, including projects that address the impacts of climate change.

Recipients may use this funding to invest in an array of drinking water infrastructure projects, such as building or upgrading facilities and transmission, distribution, and storage systems, including the replacement of lead service lines.

Recipients may also use this funding to invest in wastewater infrastructure projects, including constructing publicly-owned treatment infrastructure, managing and treating stormwater or subsurface drainage water, facilitating water reuse, and securing publicly-owned treatment works.

To help jurisdictions expedite their execution of these essential investments, Treasury's Interim Final Rule aligns types of eligible projects with the wide range of projects that can be supported by the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. Recipients retain substantial flexibility to identify those water and sewer infrastructure investments that are of the highest priority for their own communities.

Treasury's Interim Final Rule also encourages recipients to ensure that water, sewer, and broadband projects use strong labor standards, including project labor agreements and community benefits agreements that offer wages at or above the prevailing rate and include local hire provisions.

## **7. Investing in broadband infrastructure**

The pandemic has underscored the importance of access to universal, high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband coverage. Over the past year, millions of Americans relied on the internet to participate in remote school, healthcare, and work.

Yet, by at least one measure, 30 million Americans live in areas where there is no broadband service or where existing services do not deliver minimally acceptable speeds. For millions of other Americans, the high cost of broadband access may place it out of reach. The American Rescue Plan aims to help remedy these shortfalls, providing recipients with flexibility to use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to invest in broadband infrastructure.

Recognizing the acute need in certain communities, Treasury's Interim Final Rule provides that investments in broadband be made in areas that are currently unserved or underserved—in other words, lacking a wireline connection that reliably delivers minimum speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. Recipients are also encouraged to prioritize projects that achieve last-mile connections to households and businesses.

Using these funds, recipients generally should build broadband infrastructure with modern technologies in mind, specifically those projects that deliver services offering reliable 100 Mbps download and 100

Mbps upload speeds, unless impracticable due to topography, geography, or financial cost. In addition, recipients are encouraged to pursue fiber optic investments.

In view of the wide disparities in broadband access, assistance to households to support internet access or digital literacy is an eligible use to respond to the public health and negative economic impacts of the pandemic, as detailed above.

## 8. Ineligible Uses

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide substantial resources to help eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments manage the public health and economic consequences of COVID-19. Recipients have considerable flexibility to use these funds to address the diverse needs of their communities.

To ensure that these funds are used for their intended purposes, the American Rescue Plan Act also specifies two ineligible uses of funds:

- **States and territories may not use this funding to directly or indirectly offset a reduction in net tax revenue due to a change in law from March 3, 2021 through the last day of the fiscal year in which the funds provided have been spent.** The American Rescue Plan ensures that funds needed to provide vital services and support public employees, small businesses, and families struggling to make it through the pandemic are not used to fund reductions in net tax revenue. Treasury's Interim Final Rule implements this requirement. If a state or territory cuts taxes, they must demonstrate how they paid for the tax cuts from sources other than Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds—by enacting policies to raise other sources of revenue, by cutting spending, or through higher revenue due to economic growth. If the funds provided have been used to offset tax cuts, the amount used for this purpose must be paid back to the Treasury.
- **No recipient may use this funding to make a deposit to a pension fund.** Treasury's Interim Final Rule defines a "deposit" as an extraordinary contribution to a pension fund for the purpose of reducing an accrued, unfunded liability. While pension deposits are prohibited, recipients may use funds for routine payroll contributions for employees whose wages and salaries are an eligible use of funds.

Treasury's Interim Final Rule identifies several other ineligible uses, including funding debt service, legal settlements or judgments, and deposits to rainy day funds or financial reserves. Further, general infrastructure spending is not covered as an eligible use outside of water, sewer, and broadband investments or above the amount allocated under the revenue loss provision. While the program offers broad flexibility to recipients to address local conditions, these restrictions will help ensure that funds are used to augment existing activities and address pressing needs.