

ARPA FUNDING CRITERIA

After much reflection, I have determined the following as my criteria for allocation of *the remaining* ARPA funds. The relative weighting of each criterion is reflected in the order (most important listed first). Of course, each Council Member will have their own decision-making process.

ARPA Fund allocation criteria:

- (1) Rescue funds to those who have been most negatively impacted by COVID (e.g., lower income, those with food insecurity, unemployed);
- (2) Assistance to local businesses that were hit hard by COVID-related restrictions;
- (3) Enhancing the city's park system since it functioned and continues to function as an aid in trying times and can be used by everyone, regardless of income level and other factors;
- (4) Allocation of monies toward projects that impact virtually all citizens, including infrastructure needs like streets, sidewalks, multi-use paths, etc.;
- (5) Strategic targeting of housing needs to enhance neighborhoods;
- (6) Other projects/organizations which are appropriate, help citizens, and don't fit in the above criteria.

In addition to the above, preference will be given to requests which:

- (a) Use a smaller amount of money (so more variety and, possibly, more individuals are assisted);
- (b) The particular organization has also contributed money.

In addition to the above, I agree with the Mayor's straightforward, obvious guidelines:

- (i) One-time use of the funds that won't generate on-going city expenses;
- (ii) The monies must be permitted as per the federal funding guidelines;
- (iii) Funding should not duplicate services provided by an existing organization;
- (iv) Use of the money should have an impact which affects the whole community.

As mentioned above, this list will be for *remaining* monies. Previous commitments have been made for \$4,020,000:

- (A) Residential paving projects, \$3,000,000;
- (B) MARCS communication radios for public safety, \$350,000;
- (C) Housing grants, \$300,000 over three years;
- (D) City Park projects including widening the road, a walking path, and increased security, \$250,000;
- (E) Funds toward the inclusive playground in Carter Park, \$100,000;
- (F) City Pool admission assistance through lower pass fees, \$20,000.

In addition, on May 25, 2022, the Mayor requested additional monies (\$605,000):

- (G) Modified scope and inflationary adjustment for items (A) & (D), \$350,000;
- (H) Community Center and Cogan's Crossing city share of funding, \$180,000;
- (I) Downtown public restrooms, \$75,000.

These additional requests will be considered along with the many other requests for the remaining **\$3,280,000** (\$7,300,000 - \$4,020,000).