# American Rescue Plan Act Guidance

We have received additional information about the American Rescue Plan Act and would like to forward it on to you as our member cities and counties.

#### **How Much?**

Cities in the CVPD region (and the rest of Iowa) will receive \$149 per capita. For example, the City of Humeston with 484 people will receive \$144,232 (\$72,116 this year and an equal amount next year). You can find your cities population and multiply by \$149 to calculate your 2-year allocation.

#### When?

Your city should receive the first half of its funding by June 9th (within 90 days after March 11th.) The second half should arrive about one year later. All city funding (non-entitlement) will pass through the state government before arriving in city accounts. Costs for projects must be incurred between March 3, 2021 and December 31, 2024, substantial to be effective, so they are working with the Department of Treasury on this item.

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#### What can my city use the funding for?

1. <u>To recover lost tax revenue:</u> (Even if you don't think your city's tax revenues were less than usual in 2020, read on.) To determine whether a loss was experienced, the Act allows cities to assume that a 4.1% increase in tax revenues would have occurred last year if the pandemic had not happened. This assumed 4.1% increase is applied to your Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) revenue and then compared to actual 2020 revenue to determine whether a loss occurred. Unless your city experienced more than a 4.1% annual tax revenue increase for the previous 3 years, the lost revenue formula is as follows:

Lost Revenue = (FY19 Tax Revenue x 1.062126132) - 2020 Tax Revenue

Please note that, if the number is negative, your city did not experience a loss and would not be eligible to use funds to cover loss revenue.) Also, if a city experienced more than a 4.1% tax revenue growth in years prior to the pandemic, the actual 3-year average increase can be used instead of the 4.1%.) Any ARPA funds that are claimed under this lost revenue provision can be used for whatever purpose the city deems appropriate without respect to this list of eligible ARPA fund uses.

**SIDE NOTES:** CARES Act funding and FEMA funding are excluded from revenue calculations because they are not recurring sources of income. You can count as 'lost revenue' any funds that are normally received from the state that were not received due to the pandemic (example: Road Use Tax). (The National League of Cities is also hoping to get recovery of a loss in utility revenues added as an optional use of funds.)

- 2. <u>Water System Projects:</u> Construct, improve, and repair wastewater treatment plants; control non-point sources of pollution; create green infrastructure; manage and treat stormwater; water reuse; protect waterbodies from pollution. Please note that Davis-Bacon wage rates will likely apply to construction projects, so you would want to compare the amount of ARPA funding with the additional cost imposed by having to pay higher wages. Please note that projects that are underway are not ineligible for funding.
- 3. <u>Sewer (not streets) projects:</u> Build or upgrade facilities to improve water quality; transmission, distribution, and storage systems; consolidation or establishment of drinking water systems. Please note that Davis-Bacon wage rates will likely apply to construction projects, so you would want to compare the amount of ARPA funding with the additional cost imposed by having to pay higher wages. Please note that projects that are underway are not ineligible for funding.
- **4.** <u>Grants</u> to households, businesses, non-profit organizations, and/or other governments who respond to the public health emergency and its negative effects.
- **5.** <u>To recover bonus pay</u> for essential workers (examples: premium pay for nursing home staff, food production workers, grocery stores, restaurants, transit drivers, childcare workers.)
- **6.** <u>Broadband</u> that is designed for unserved or underserved (lacking 25/3 Mbps wireline service) households and businesses and reliably provides at least 100/20 Mbps service. The National League of Cities has indicated that the broadband provision needs to be more substantial to be effective, so they are working with the Department of Treasury on this item.

#### Want more information?

Although the program is a work in progress, the following resources may help to address questions and help you to keep current:

# CDBG - COVID 19 Grant Funding

Iowa Economic Development Authority has announced additional Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) opportunities. *All activities funded through this program must prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19.* 

Applicants must document that at least 51% of beneficiaries served by the project are considered low to moderate income. This may be demonstrated through using Census data (per ACS) date or a local income survey.

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis, as funds are available. Applicants must document all matching funds for the project at the time of application. Matching funds must be committed to the project at the time of application. *IEDA will require ALL projects funded under the CDBG-CV program to be completed and have all CDBG funds drawn down by July 20, 2023.* The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) will accept applications for assistance for the following activities under the state's CDBG-CV program:



Public facilities/ public spaces Public Wi-fi/ broadband access Microenterprise assistance

Housing conversion Commercial façade improvements Food bank/ food program assistance

Daycare assistance Contact CVPD for more information.

# Recently awarded Grants

IEDA offers Community Catalyst Building Remediation funding that is intended to help revitalize the downtown districts. Centerville was recently awarded funds to restore a vacant iconic building into a commercial wellness studio and eight loft-style apartments.

Paint Iowa Beautiful provided paint to Chariton's Van Allen Elementary School and Chariton Public Library. This community enhancement project helps to improve attractiveness and the beauty of the community.

Centerville was one of five communities who recently received a "5-2-1-0 Healthy Choices Count" grant sponsored by the Department of Public Health. This program works to support nutrition and physical activity policy, system and environmental changes in communities settings such as schools, childcares, out-of-school, healthcare, and communities. CVPD will work with Lakeview Elementary PE classes & the YMCA on program specifics.

# Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

B.R.I.C. is FEMA's new mitigation grant program, replacing the pre-disaster mitigation (PDM) grant program. BRIC stands for "Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities". Under BRIC, funds are allowed to be used for building code activities.

Local governments are "sub-applicants," meaning they need to apply to Iowa Homeland Security for funds. In order to be eligible, local governments need to have participated in their County's non-expired Multi Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Below is a list of potential building code adoption and enforcement activities funded under BRIC:

- \* Evaluate which code adoption and enforcement activities are best suited for the jurisdiction.
- \* Evaluation activities include staff time or external labor consultants necessary for evaluations and expenses for code review committees.
- \* BRIC may also allow a community the option to decide to enter a Memorandum of Agreement or
- \* Intergovernmental Agreement with an adjacent jurisdiction or third-party provider to permit and enforce appropriate building codes.
- \* Adopt building codes or develop building code requirements, including publication of those requirements, related to land use, zoning, floodplain management, infrastructure, urban-wild land defensible space (e.g., building, storm water management regulations), or other area, that help make the community more resilient.
- \* Improve or modify current or existing building code requirements to reflect the latest code edition, exceed the latest code edition, or develop or modify building code—coordinated requirements, including publication of those requirements, related to land use, zoning, floodplain management, infrastructure, urban-wild land defensible space (e.g., storm water management regulations), or other area, that help make the community more resilient.

# HFI - New Homes for \$90,000 including delivery!

Homes for Iowa, Inc. (HFI) is a nonprofit organization aiming to increase the supply of affordable housing in rural areas. In partnership with Iowa Prison Industries, houses are being constructed at a new Housing Production Center at the Newton Correctional Facility.



The program will allow inmates
to learn trade skills such as plumbing, electrical work, and carpentry. Iowa Councils of Governments manage the program in coordination with HFI and other community partners.

CVPD is the local contact for inquiries and applications. The homes are purchased directly from HFI and delivered to the designated site for \$90,000. Households earning up to 100% of the statewide median income are eligible buyers of the finished home. Developer/Homeowner are responsible for lot acquisition, site preparation, foundation, utility hook-ups, concrete work, and any additions such as the garage. Contact CVPD today for more information.

# CVPD - Housing Summit

Housing revitalization has been identified as an essential need in region for several years. More than one third of homes were constructed prior to 1939 and are in need of renovations. Additional concerns are for homes constructed prior to 1970 because of the use of lead-based paint. These two categories account for approximately 55% of the housing stock in the region.

There are multiple housing investment projects occurring throughout the four counties. Investments range from multi-family housing, single residential, dormitory, investment companies, etc. Some groups are even exploring options of developing complete neighborhoods.



CVPD hosted a "Housing Summit" that featured keynote speakers from Rural Housing 360 and supplemental presentations by USDA, IDNR, Homes for Iowa, IEDA, IHCC, Chariton Valley Regional Housing Trust Fund, and several others. Presenters gave investors and communities recommendations for housing development, estimates for amenities, potential funding options and best

practices.

The wealth of information sparked great conversations and a potential for a follow-up housing summit for further discussions.



#### CVPD PROJECTS BY COUNTY

#### **Appanoose County**

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers; Passenger Transit Mtgs, Davis Bacon monitoring Centerville sidewalk project; Public informational meetings for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long Range Planning; County Transportation Brochures distributed, hosted regional Housing Summit, Centerville TAP project, Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings & document, Centerville Historic Trolley (HPC) scheduling.

#### **Lucas County**

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers, Public informational meeting for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long-Range Planning. Passenger Transit Mtgs, County Transportation Brochures distributed, Lucas County Employee Manual, Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings & document, City of Chariton Employee Manual, hosted regional Housing Summit, Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings & document.

#### **Monroe County**

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers, and beginning Public informational meeting for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long-Range Planning. Passenger Transit Mtgs, County Transportation Brochures distributed, Interim Planning & Zoning Administration, public meetings & data gathering for County comprehensive plan; Public meetings & data gathering for City of Albia Comprehensive Plan, hosted regional Housing Summit, Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings & document, Albia Zoning Code Update, Albia Ordinance Code Update, City of Lovilia CDBG application,

# Wayne County

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers; Public informational meeting for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long-Range Passenger Transit Mtgs, Planning. County Transportation Brochures distributed, hosted regional Housing Summit, HMP grant proposal, Hazard Mitigation Plan Contract, City of Corydon Employee Manual, and any other future project needs.

For current information visit:

CHARITON VALLEY PLANNING & DEVELOPOMENT on Facebook or

Grant Opportunities				
Program	Purpose	Deadline	Eligible Applicants	
CDBG Water & Sewer Fund	Grants to assist cities & counties with sanitary sewer system improvements, water system improvements, water & wastewater treatment facilities, storm sewer projects related to sanitary sewer system improvements and rural water connections.	January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1	Cities & counties	
Solid Waste Alterna- tives Program (SWAP)	Emphasis for selected projects is placed on tonnage avoided or reduced, sustainability and ability to replicate.	January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1	Local Governments, public & private groups	
RISE Local Develop- ment Grant	Funding to provide road/street access to expand business parks and development areas.	February 1, September 1	Local Governments	
Iowa Economic Devel- opment Authority	Business recovery related to COVID-19. Resources can be found at www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/businessrecovery	Ongoing	Business, industry, and local governments	
Iowa Small Business Development Center COVID-19 Resources	Resources can be found at www.iowasbdc.org/covid-19	Ongoing	Business & Industry	
Highway Safety Im- provement Program (HSIP)	Provides grants for low-cost, systematic safety improvements in the \$10,000/mile range, focusing on lane departure crashes	Ongoing	Counties	
Small Town Sign Replacement	The program will provide up to \$5,000 for signs and sign- posts per applying community on a first-come, first-served basis	Ongoing	Cities	
Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP)	Provides 100 hours of engineering assistance for operations and traffic safety issues.	Ongoing	Cities & Counties	
Alliant Hometown Challenge Grants	Dollar-for-Dollar match to local fundraising for a one-time safety related projects for local response teams.	Rolling	Local governments & private/non-profits	
IDNR Derelict Buildings Grant	Addresses neglected commercial or public structures that have been vacant for at least six months	February 20	Cities under 5,000 population	
IEDA Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program	Grants up to \$100,000 for full building restoration of commercial or similar buildings located in downtown areas.	By invitation	Local governments	
Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG)	Supports targeted technical assistance and training to develop or expand small and emerging private businesses in rural communities or areas. Grant funds may be used for such activities as project planning, business counseling/training, technical assistance, market research, feasibility studies, professional and technical reports, or product/service improvements. They may also be used to help acquire or develop land, construct, or renovate buildings, establish revolving loans funds, community economic development planning, establish rural business incubators and leadership and entrepreneur training. <a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants/ia">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants/ia</a> .	February 2022	Communities, state agencies, nonprofit corporations, rural cooperatives, higher learning institutions, rural cooperatives, and federally recognized tribes	

# RPA17 - TAP Projects Update

City of Murray is constructing a Bike/Pedestrian Trail around a sports facility using \$96,000 of RPA TAP funding.

Decatur County is adding 1.2 miles of paved trail on the Little River Scenic Pathway using \$345,000 of TAP funding.

The City of Centerville will improve pedestrian safety with multiple sidewalk installations throughout the community with \$375,000 of RPA TAP funds. Pictures below show the new project during construction.











# MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS—CONTRACTED SERVICES

- Provide administrative, management assistance, Technical Assistance, Project Development
- Prepare updates to model codes , Assist local governments in preparation or revision of local ordinances.
- Coordinate on new or updated comprehensive plans or other functional plans.
- Prepare local government brochures, fact sheets, or other promotional materials.
- If there is a service you need assistance with, just ask. We can provide outreach to consultants when needed.
- Transportation Planning
- Grant Administration, Community Assessments, Grant/Funding Alerts, Community Profiles, Funding Searches
- Environmental Planning, Hazardous Mitigation Planning
- Personnel Policy Development & Updates
- Regional Planning Services Zoning

Some services require additional contract billing for costs. (Contact Nichole with questions)

# RPA 17 UPDATING TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DOCUMENTS

DOT's Regional Planning Affiliations are funded through FHWA and FTA sources, as well as local financial support. RPAs provide the Iowa DOT with the following required items.

- Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP)—outlines the annual transportation planning activities each MPO/RPA will undertake during the next state fiscal year.
- Public Participation Plan (PPP)—outlines the process each MPO/RPA will follow to adequately involve the public in the their transportation planning activities.
- Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)—provides direction and guidance for each MPO/RPA to make efficient transportation investment decisions over a 20-year planning horizon.
- Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP)—promotes joint, coordinated passenger transportation planning programs and provides needs-based justification for passenger transportation projects.
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)—identifies the capital and non-capital transportation projects proposed for federal-aid funding or action for each MPO/RPA over the next four-year period.

RPA17 (CVPD) will be completing new PTP, PPP and LRTP over the next two years. Annual document completion include TPWP and TIP.



RPA 17 TAP applications for enhancement projects are due annually on December 1. Contact CVPD office for an application.

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Thank you for reading our current newsletter. Please share with others!



# PASSENGER TRANSIT PLANNING- CENTERVILLE HISTORIC TROLLEY

#### LET HPC TROLLEY DO THE DRIVING!

Centerville's Historic Trolley service is provided by the Centerville Historic Preservation Corporation (HPC). The trolley provides services to Centerville/Appanoose County and beyond. Narrated historic tours are available by appointment and tours can be customized to fit any group's needs. The trolley is frequently rented for weddings, events, and tour groups! The ADA accessible trolley is available year-round, and the bench seating accommodates 22 to 28 adults.

The valued volunteers of HPC recently found themselves in a challenging situation. The volunteer responsible for booking trips and market has recently retired. The committee struggled with how to proceed and approached CVPD for support. Historic transportation preservation is cherished component of Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation. CVPD is now assisting the corporation to ensure operation of the trolley for the future.

If you looking for wedding, party or family gathering transportation—now is the time to book your dates. Call Nichole at 641-895-8812 to get more information about rates and times or email at: centervillehistorictrolley@gmail.com

# Fun Facts:



