

# **City of Urbana ARPA Planning**

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**January 2022**

# ARPA Management for the City of Urbana

## Draft Timeline



*Fall 2021 – Spring 2022*

### **Background Research and Synthesis of Priorities**

- Compile information on
  - ARPA regulations
  - Existing city priorities
  - Gaps in existing priorities
- Collect additional input from Urbana residents to refine ARPA priorities
- Set up website for ongoing ARPA documentation
- Work with City to finalize priorities eligible for ARPA funding

*Spring 2022 – Fall 2022*

### **Develop Concept Plan**

- Develop overall strategy and goals consistent with city goals and federal guidance
- Define metrics to measure progress toward goals and evaluate applications for funding
- Draft a Concept Plan that will serve as a comprehensive guide to the City's ARPA strategy, goals, and application process
- Finalize the Concept Plan with the City

*Fall 2022 – Spring 2027*

### **Implement Plan**

- Outreach, education, and applicant recruitment
- Create and maintain online application forms
- Work with City to process applications, choose recipients, and document process
- Fulfill ongoing reporting requirements of ARPA with Department of Treasury

# ARPA Management for the City of Urbana

## Key Dates

- **5/2021** - First round funds received by City
- **9/2021** - CCRPC contract executed
- **5/2022** - Second round funds expected
- **12/2024** - Deadline to commit funds
- **12/2026** - Deadline to expend funds
- **3/2027** - Final reporting due

# ARPA Management for the City of Urbana

## Funding Totals

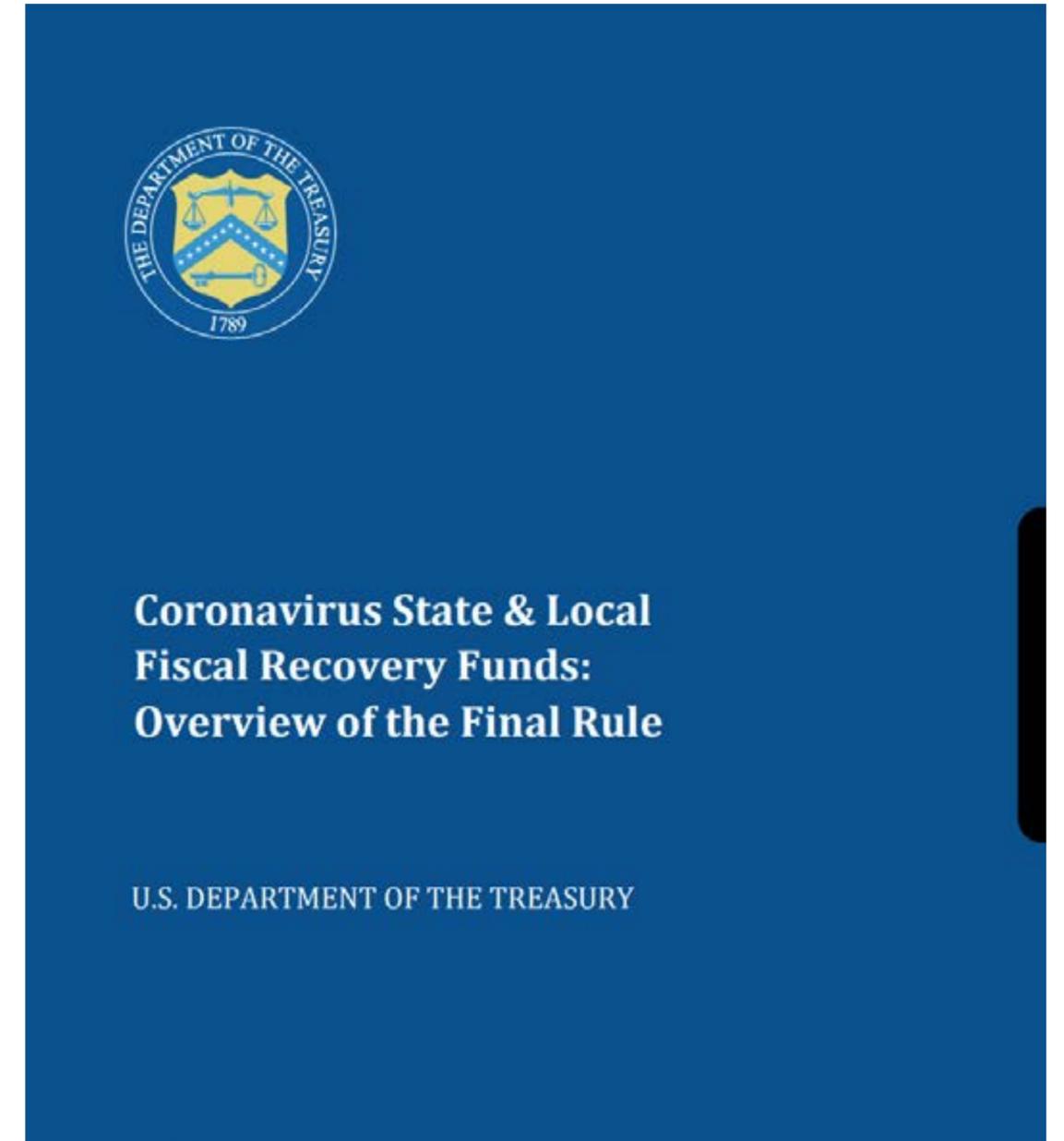
- **\$12.97 million total ARPA SLFRF grant to City of Urbana**
  - **\$415,180 budgeted for administration (3% of total funds)**
  - **Allocation to address internal city staffing and budgetary impacts from pandemic**
  - **Remainder will be available for council-selected priorities and projects**

# Summary

- ARPA Federal Guidelines
- Urbana's Possible ARPA Priorities
- Next Steps

# Summary

- **ARPA Federal Guidelines**
  - **Eligible Uses**
  - **Ineligible Uses**
- Urbana's Possible ARPA Priorities
- Next Steps



January 2022

# Eligible Uses

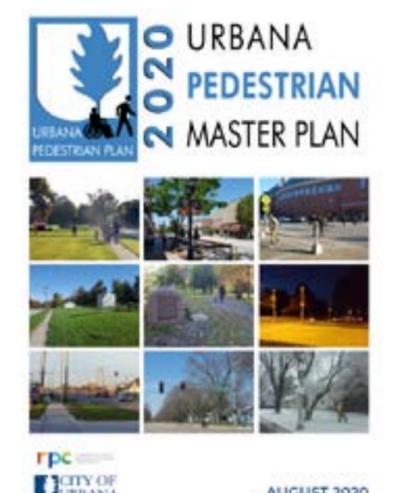
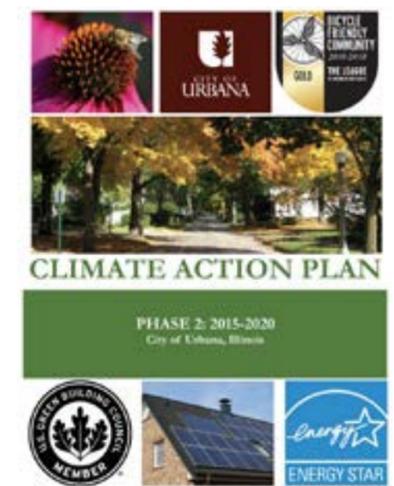
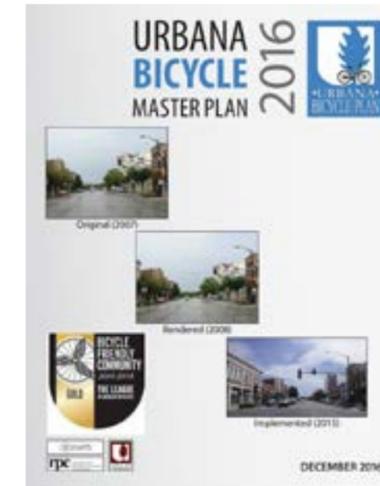
- Local Revenue Replacement
  - Up to \$10 million of allocated funds are automatically eligible for this use (greater flexibility from recently-released Final Rule)
- COVID-19 Public Health and Economic Impacts
  - Broad discretion when spent on groups deemed to be disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- Premium Pay for Essential Workers
  - Either retroactive bonuses or incentives for future work, either directly to city workers or as a grant for employers to pay out
- Investments in Water, Sewer, or Broadband Infrastructure

# Ineligible Uses

- Paying off pension obligations, debt service, or legal obligations from settlements or judgments
- Depositing into rainy day funds, reserves, etc
- Offsetting tax cuts
- Uses that violate or work against ARPA or other federal, state, and local laws

# Summary

- ARPA Federal Guidelines
- **Urbana's Possible ARPA Priorities**
  - **Best Practices**
  - **Existing Plans and Public Input**
  - **Identified Priorities**
- Next Steps



# Urbana's ARPA Best Practices

1. ARPA/Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are **temporary and non-recurring**.
2. Recovery Funds are particularly well-suited for **one-time investment in critical public infrastructure projects and long-term assets** that will provide measurable benefits over many years. Future operation and maintenance costs associated with new projects must be taken into account, if applicable.
3. It is important to identify **service and recovery gaps** where funding is most needed and to prioritize **historically underserved, marginalized, or disproportionately-impacted groups and sectors** of the economy.
4. Allocation of Recovery Funds should reflect **community input**, along with priorities identified in the **City Council Strategic Goals 2022-23**, current City of Urbana **projects and initiatives**, the ongoing **Imagine Urbana** Comprehensive Plan process, and **other plans** developed by the City of Urbana.

# Urbana's ARPA Best Practices

5. Programs, services, and interventions (internal or community-based) supported by Recovery Funds should be **evidence-based** or be structured in such a way that they can **build evidence through program evaluation**.
6. New or expanded programs, services, and interventions (internal or community-based) supported by Recovery Funds that will require an **ongoing financial commitment** after the initial investment should include a **proposed sustainability plan and funding source(s)**.
7. The City should strive to leverage Recovery Funds by **collaborating with other local city, county, and community partners**. The City should identify **other potential sources of state and federal funding** to help achieve goals. These "ARPA scanning and partnering efforts" can be used to enhance and broaden the impact of Recovery Funds across the community.

# Existing Plans and Public Input

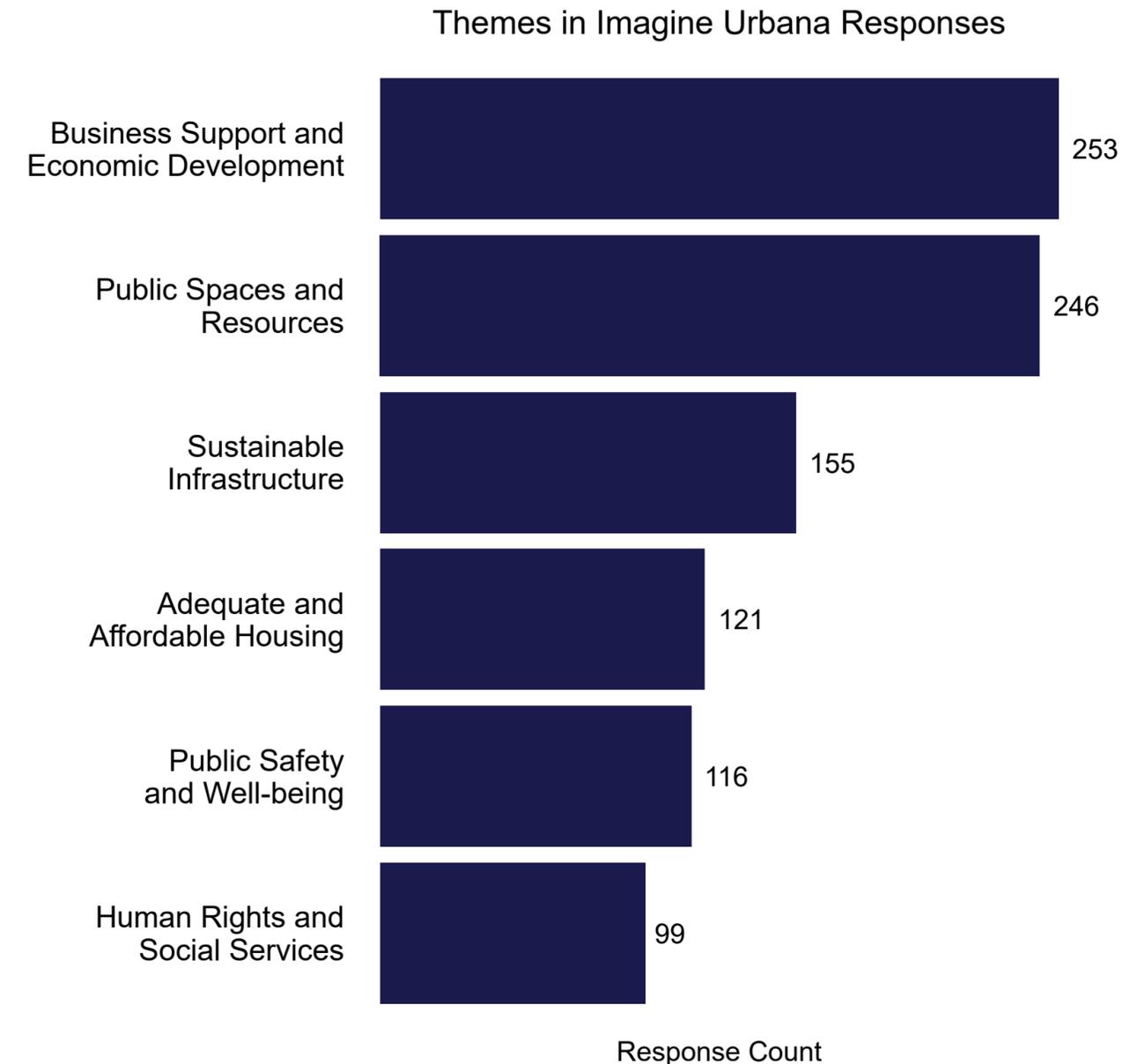
## Plans Consulted

- 2022-2023 Mayor Council Goals
- 2021-2022 Budget
- 2021 Capital Improvement Plan
- 2020-2024 Urbana HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan
- 2020 Pedestrian Master Plan
- 2020 Park District Strategic Plan
- 2020 Urbana Kickapoo Rail Trail Extension Study
- 2016 Bicycle Master Plan
- 2015-2020 Climate Action Plan
- 2015 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 2013-2020 Sustainable Water Management Plan
- 2012 Downtown Urbana Plan
- 2008 Boneyard Creek Master Plan
- 2005 Comprehensive Plan
- 1998 Historic Preservation Plan

# Existing Plans and Public Input

## Imagine Urbana Comprehensive Plan Update - Public Input

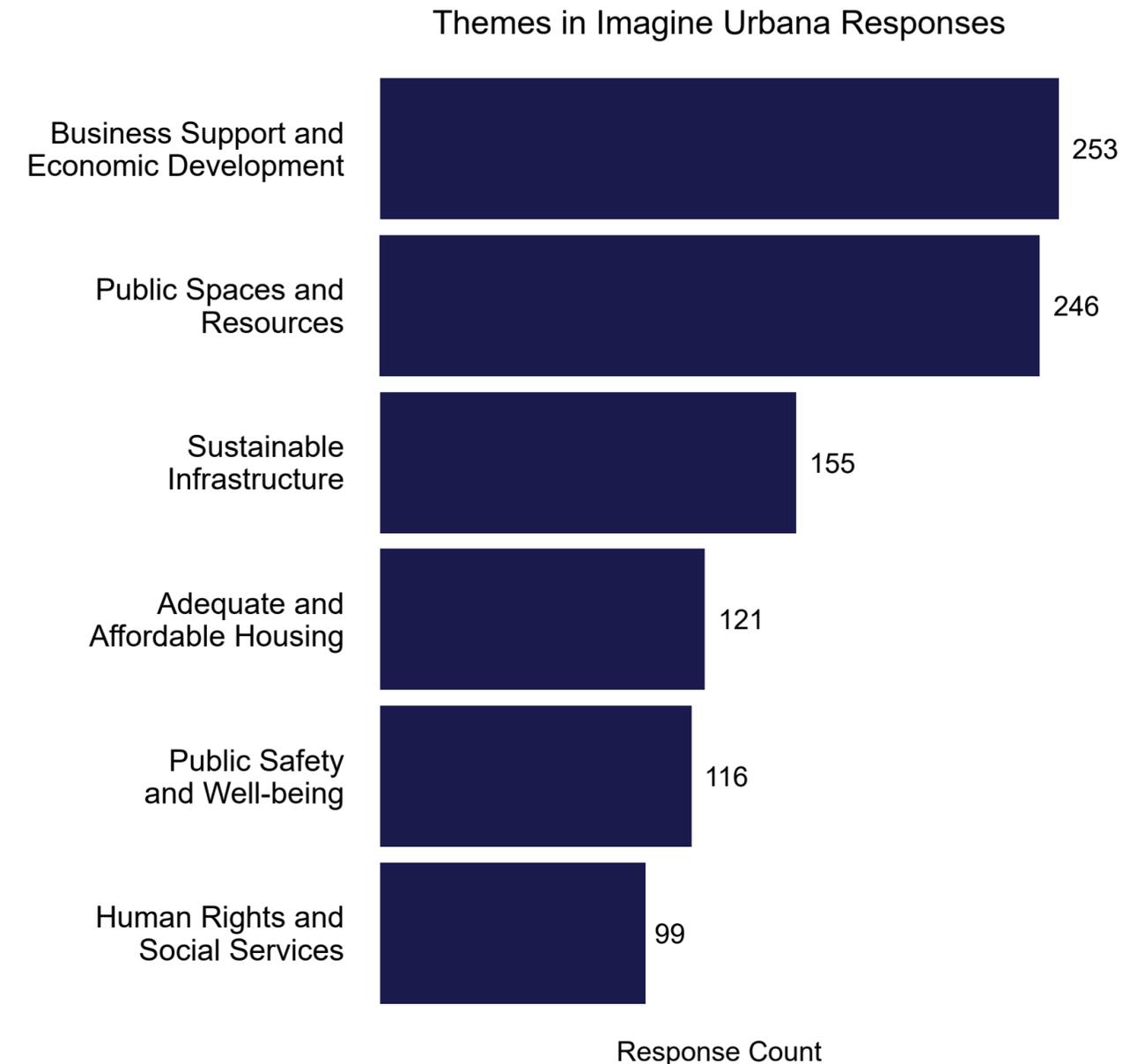
- What opportunities or challenges exist for Urbana?
- What can the community do to improve or address those challenges?
- What would you like Urbana to look like in 20 years?
- What should Urbana's priorities be over the next 10-20 years?



# Existing Plans and Public Input

## Imagine Urbana Comprehensive Plan Update - Public Input

- Common sub-themes seen within these themes –
  - Downtown Redevelopment
  - Small Business Assistance
  - School Quality
  - City Finances and Tax Burdens
  - City Leadership – Effectiveness and Transparency
  - Just Policing and Violence Prevention



# Identified Priorities

- Sustainable Infrastructure
- Public Health and Safety
- Economic Recovery and Development
- Adequate and Affordable Housing
- Human Rights and Social Services
- Public Spaces and Resources

} Identified  
in recent  
mayor and  
council  
priorities

Sustainable  
Infrastructure

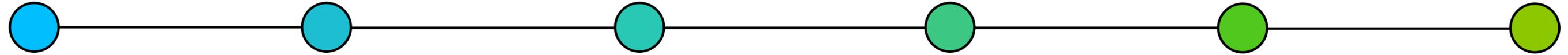
Public Health  
and Safety

Economic Recovery  
and Development

Adequate and  
Affordable  
Housing

Human Rights  
and Social  
Services

Public  
Spaces and  
Resources



# Identified Priorities

## Slide Structure

- Definition
- References in Existing Plans
- Individual Comments (Imagine Urbana)
- Existing Initiative Examples
- ARPA Case Studies

**Sustainable  
Infrastructure**

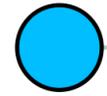
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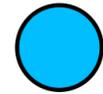
Human Rights  
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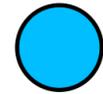
## Definition

- **Sustainable Infrastructure** encompasses investments in physical infrastructure (water, transportation, electricity, internet, etc.) to ensure that local infrastructure systems are adequate and resilient for current needs and future changes, including population growth, climate change, and technological innovation.



## References in Existing Plans

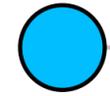
- **2020 Pedestrian Master Plan** – Improve Urbana’s pedestrian infrastructure to enable and encourage all residents and visitors to choose to walk to destinations.
- **2020-2024 Consolidated Plan** – To reduce utility costs and to improve the comfort of low-income families by incorporating energy conservation techniques into housing rehabilitation assistance.
- **2015-2020 Climate Action Plan** – 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 from a 2007 baseline...80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 from a 2007 baseline.
- **2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Reduce or eliminate potential losses by encouraging local policies that break the cycle of damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage of infrastructure.
- **2013-2020 Sustainable Water Management Plan** – Protect surface water and stormwater quality; Plan for climate impacts on flood management...continue a decreasing trend of per capita potable water use.
- **2005 Comprehensive Plan** – Appropriately designed infill development will be encouraged to help revitalize the built urban environment, while new growth areas will be developed in a contiguous, compact and sustainable manner.



## Individual Comments (Imagine Urbana)

- “**climate change** is going to really stress the city’s aging infrastructure, and the City will have to decide between balancing more general revenues to pay for it or new levies on growth..”
- “Prioritize access, because even able bodied people benefit from **accessible design!**”
- “Investment in physical infrastructure such as **bike lanes, pedestrian paths, ADA ramps for sidewalks at intersections, and upzoning around bus routes.**”
- “infrastructure is an issue. Especially **lighting and streets**”
- “Urbana should prioritize **green infrastructure** like natural storm-water management systems using wetlands and restored greenspaces, minimizing mowing schedules for all government buildings and roads, and incentivizing resource-saving improvements...that both **saves the city money and improves its carbon footprint.**”
- “continue to encourage **solar and geothermal**”
- “fewer barriers for **electric cars**”
- “More **green spaces** and **bike paths.**”

## Sustainable Infrastructure



Public Health  
and Safety



Economic Recovery  
and Development



Adequate and  
Affordable  
Housing



Human Rights  
and Social  
Services



Public  
Spaces and  
Resources



# Existing Initiative Examples

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (further details on local funding TBD)
- Urbana Current Activities
  - Equity and Quality of Life Fund
  - LRC Solar
  - Rainbarrels
  - U-Cycle
  - Gold Level bicycle community
  - Tree City USA designation
- DCEO - Energy Bill SB 2408
  - Decarbonizing Illinois
  - Developing Illinois' Workforce
  - Investing in Clean, Renewable Energy
  - Promoting Electric Vehicles
  - Protecting Illinois Consumers
  - Strengthening Ethics Requirements

**Sustainable  
Infrastructure**

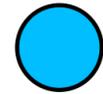
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## ARPA Case Studies

- Champaign
  - ~\$12 million planned toward **lighting and drainage infrastructure improvements in Garden Hills neighborhood**
- Pittsburgh
  - Lead water **service line replacements**, replace fleet vehicles with **alternative fuel vehicles**, **energy efficiency improvement** grants for low and moderate income homeowners
- Honolulu
  - Stormwater management, including **planning and maintenance for a changing climate**; **broadband access improvements in public areas**; support for **local food producers** and connecting them to markets
- Madison
  - “Continue program to increase **energy efficiency, decrease environmental toxins and install solar** in [Naturally occurring Affordable Housing] buildings”
- Austin
  - Create Austin **Civilian Conservation Corps**; fund **regional food systems planning**; pilot community **“resiliency hubs”** to address disaster response as well as on-going community safety challenges



## Definition

- **Public Health and Safety** encompasses a range of issues affecting the wellbeing of community members, including violence prevention, pandemic response, encouraging physical activity and creating safe public spaces, and addressing day-to-day health stressors, like exposure to harmful substances



## References in Existing Plans

- **2022-2023 Mayor Council Goals** – Pursue methods to mitigate community violence.
- **2021 A Resolution Prioritizing Tactical De-Escalation in the Use of Force Policy and Police Transparency in Urbana**
- **2020-2024 HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan** – To remove unhealthy or hazardous housing conditions in low- and moderate- income areas
- **2021-2022 City Budget** – Reflect the Urbana City Council’s commitment to ending structural racism and prioritizing de-escalation in police use of force.
- **2020 Pedestrian Master Plan** – Eliminate fatal and serious pedestrian/vehicle crashes.
- **2020 Park District Strategic Plan** – Create opportunities for wellness experiences open to all generations
- **2016 Bicycle Master Plan** – Enhance Safe Routes to Schools by installing bike routes and shared-use paths; Improve safety and continuity of existing bikeways and routes



## Individual Comments (Imagine Urbana)

- “Redefine public safety—**one door** a good start; **slow streets** also welcome”
- “more **walking options** and more **safe routes for biking.**”
- “More/better **sidewalks and streetlights**”
- “**Poverty and gun violence** are challenges.”
- “Work with citizens, members of our law enforcement & other professionals to **reimagine the role of law enforcement** so we respond more effectively to the wide range of **mental health needs** of our community & schools”
- “Increase **police engagement with the public** to encourage more trust in our police force”
- “We need **police reform and increases in social services** -- like tutoring and post-incarceration reintegration”
- “Challenge is to make sure **all communities are treated** well [with regard to] services, policing, parks, schools, etc.”
- “**Enforcement** of existing laws and ordinances”



## Existing Initiative Examples

- Urbana Current Activities
  - \$21.6M from general fund for fire and police departments
  - Evaluation of racial equity and social justice in approach to public safety
  - De-escalation and crisis intervention training
  - Co-Responder Crisis Response team
- Champaign County Community Coalition (chaired by City of Champaign)
- Champaign County ARPA allocation toward mental health resources
- CUPHD Programming
- UIUC COVID Programming
- Countywide COVID Response



## ARPA Case Studies

- Saint Louis
  - **COVID vaccine outreach, incentives, and clinics; community violence intervention and behavioral health call diversion** from the police
- Houston
  - Maintaining current police staffing, expanding 911 call **diversion program, crisis intervention, and domestic abuse response program**, weekly solid **waste cleanups at homeless encampments, vaccine incentive** gift cards
- Madison
  - **Violence prevention & youth engagement initiatives**, along with **alternative crisis response**
- Boston
  - **COVID vaccination and testing**, initiative to destigmatize and increase **access to mental health care, community violence intervention, traffic calming and street safety, substance abuse services**, LOSS (**Local Outreach to Suicide Survivor**) Team, **HIV prevention**



## Definition

- **Economic Recovery and Development** encompasses support to both businesses and individual workers—from firm recruitment, to business expansion and retention, to workforce training—as well as providing the community infrastructure for workers and businesses to succeed.



## References in Existing Plans

- **2022-2023 Mayor Council Goals** – Support current local businesses; Promote workforce development; Recruit new businesses and industries.
- **2016 Bicycle Master Plan** – Install bikeways to improve bike access to employers, especially major employers.
- **2016 Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan & Project** – Enhance the real estate tax base for the City and all overlapping taxing districts; Encourage and assist private investment in the redevelopment of the Area
- **2012 Downtown Urbana Plan** – Strengthen economic activity in downtown Urbana.



## Individual Comments (Imagine Urbana)

- **“Expanding the property tax base** remains a constant challenge but the current property tax system seems incompatible with a sustainable future.”
- **“attracting businesses** to bring more income into Urbana”
- “The Champaign “county” chamber of commerce or whatever it’s called is 100% city of Champaign. We need to be **more aggressive getting businesses.**”
- “Challenge-the eye sore that is the **Old Lincoln Hotel**. Also an opportunity exists to revitalize that area of town to make it **a truly special downtown area.**”
- “Need to **attract more small entrepreneurs** and **promote the unique vibe of Urbana**”
- “The area around the **Philo shopping center** needs more love. More businesses and destinations to enrich our community specifically addressing the **needs and wants of residents there.**”
- “Difficulty **growing downtown and attracting new businesses**, but so much potential.”
- “City of Urbana has largely **forgotten SE Urbana**. Too much focus on downtown district and yet **Landmark Hotel** has been an eyesore for decades. Few jobs available in Philo Rd Business District. Middle income earners are paying **too much in taxes** for services received.”
- **“diversity and inclusion** in business support opportunities”

Sustainable  
Infrastructure

Public Health  
and Safety

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Adequate and  
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Public  
Spaces and  
Resources



## Existing Initiative Examples

- **Pandemic Relief (current and expired programs)**
  - Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
    - Back to Business Grant Program (B2B)
    - Business Interruption Grant (BIG) Program
    - Community Navigator Program (Hub/spokes)
    - CURE Economic Support (ES) Program (Communities)
    - Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program (DSBS)
    - Hospitality Emergency Grant Program
    - Illinois Small Business Emergency Loan Fund
    - Rebuild Distressed Communities (RDC) Program
    - Rebuild Illinois Infrastructure Programs
    - Tourism Attractions and Festivals Grant Program
    - Local Initiatives Support Cooperation (LISC)
    - Rapid Relief and Resiliency Fund
    - Rural Relief Small Business Grant Program
  - Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
    - DreamxCUpartnership, SBDC CARES supplemental funding, Community Navigator Program
  - Small Business Administration (SBA)
    - Community Navigators Program, Disaster Loan Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program (EIDL) , Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) Program, Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) Program
  - CCRPC
    - Workforce Employer Grant Program
    - Financing Modifications
    - DSBS Grant Program
  - City of Urbana
    - Small Business Assistance Program
    - Urbana Economic Support Grant
- **Existing Programs**
  - Urbana Enterprise Zone, TIF Programs, Think Urbana, Hotel Royer Redevelopment Agreement
  - CCRPC Workforce Development and Economic Development programming
  - Ongoing EDC and SBDC programming

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## ARPA Case Studies

- Madison
  - Grants to **small businesses**, supporting **neighborhood business districts**, bringing art to vacant storefronts downtown
- Austin
  - **Training residents for careers in healthcare, media production, and facilities management**
- Cincinnati
  - Grant support for **local restaurants**, business accelerator program for **minority and women-owned businesses**, grants to **neighborhood commercial districts**
- Honolulu
  - **Free certification training programs** through community colleges
- Boston
  - **Workforce digital literacy, young adult employment**, workforce development for creative workers, **commercial rental relief**, small business relief, workforce hiring and retention and business development for **childcare sector**



## Definition

- **Adequate and Affordable Housing** means Urbana invests in ensuring that all community members live in safe and healthy housing that they can afford—whether that means helping the houseless get back on their feet, updating older housing stock, constructing new units to meet demand, or providing financial supports to keep people in their homes.



## References in Existing Plans

- **2022-2023 Mayor Council Goals** – Support housing security and equity; Improve housing quality
- **2020-2024 Consolidated Plan** – To encourage the revitalization and stabilization of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods by implementing housing programs.
- **2015-2020 Climate Action Plan** – Adapt to climate change impacts.
- **2012 Downtown Urbana Plan** – Promote context-appropriate urban-style infill development to extend downtown’s core character...Increase downtown’s vitality by attracting more residents and visitors.



## Individual Comments (Imagine Urbana)

- “More **long-term planning** of developments...**Improvements to older neighborhoods** where there is a great deal of blight that scares away buyers. **More low-income and section 8 vouchers for higher-income areas**, rather than all of the mixed and low-income areas.”
- “Encourage **new multi-use buildings** with more living units, parking, and business space to make downtown more vibrant.”
- “Facilitate a **year-round overnight shelter** for homeless people.”
- “We need **more affordable housing** and neighborhoods that are much more **racially and economically integrated than currently**.”
- “Maintain its human scale while being a welcoming place for new residents (students and families). Allow opportunities for **gentle and low-mid density development** closer to the university and around the downtown.”
- “Keeping **residential property taxes** at least no higher than surrounding areas...”
- “**reinvest in older housing stock**; do real inspections and require upkeep of rental stock”



## Existing Initiative Examples

- **Pandemic Relief**
  - \$2.9 million in additional local HOME funds, to be used for production or preservation of affordable housing, tenant-based rental assistance; supportive services, or shelter purchase/development
  - 113 new emergency vouchers for Housing Authority of Champaign County
  - \$17M to Community Services Division of RPC, for programs like Emergency Rental Assistance, additional LIHEAP funding, and Emergency Lodging
  - IHDA Illinois Rental Payment Program; administered locally through Habitat for Humanity
- **Other State and Federal Programs**
  - Housing Choice Vouchers and Housing Facilities administered by HACC
  - HUD Lead Hazard Mitigation – Administered by RPC
- **Local Programs**
  - C-U at Home
  - Cunningham Township Assistance (applicants currently directed to RPC)
  - Home Weatherization Program - RPC
  - Urbana administration of federal HOME and CDBG funds and programs

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## ARPA Case Studies

- Saint Louis
  - Housing assistance—including **rental, mortgage, utility, and property tax assistance; support for unhoused residents**, including emergency shelter, bridge housing, rapid rehousing, tiny homes, affordable housing, and permanent supportive housing
- Lexington
  - **Homelessness prevention**, site improvements for a **future public housing site**, emergency housing assistance, and supportive housing assistance
- Boston
  - **Mortgage relief, emergency cash assistance, internet investments in public housing**, improving **voucher holder's** ability to **find rental housing**, and examining **land acquisition** opportunities
- Seattle
  - **Rent abatement and deferral, multifamily housing acquisition**, creating a **24/7 shelter**, and **transition housing programs** (including rapid rehousing, diversion funding, and permanent supportive housing)



## Definition

- **Human Rights and Social Services** programs ensure that Urbana welcomes and supports all community members—regardless of income, background, or personal attributes—and provides opportunities for all residents to thrive.



## References in Existing Plans

- **2021 A Resolution Committing to End Structural Racism and Achieve Racial Equity**
- **2020-2024 HOME Consolidated Plan** – To enable low-income families who cannot obtain conventional financing to rehabilitate their homes
- **2020 Pedestrian Master Plan** – Invest in Urbana’s pedestrian resources (infrastructure, education, encouragement, and enforcement) to improve all substandard areas, especially areas of concentrated racial or ethnic minorities, lower income areas, and transit dependent populations.
- **2020 Urbana Park District Strategic Plan** – Advance efforts that make UPD parks and facilities more welcoming for everyone.
- **2016 Bicycle Master Plan** – Install bikeways to improve bike access in low-income neighborhoods, especially in areas where bicycles may be a primary form of transportation for people.
- **2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Improve the capability of participant populations to rapidly recover from disruption caused by natural hazards, adverse impacts associated with climate change, and technical hazards.



## Individual Comments (Imagine Urbana)

- “advocate for increases in **support from the state & federal levels**. Invest in & **engage with our low resource communities**”
- “Helping grow a **safer, inclusive, and helpful community.**”
- “lowering crime by providing **more social services** and **opportunities for those with lower income.**”
- “Remain progressive. **Help those in need.** Clean up politics. **Work towards social justice.**”
- “**Poverty and all that can come with it -- food, employment, and housing insecurity, discrimination, literacy challenges.** Of course, these challenges are national and international as well; however, I think Urbana is more inventive than many places and so we can come up with more great solutions!”



## Existing Initiative Examples

- Pandemic Relief
  - Additional Head Start funding - \$2.1M
- Cunningham Township Assistance (Rental Assistance applicants currently being directed to ERA)
- Champaign County Immigrant Service Organizations
- First Followers
- CCRPC
  - Head Start
- Urbana Current Activities
  - Office of Human Rights and Equity
  - Outreach and education
  - Social Services Funding



## ARPA Case Studies

- Madison
  - Helping community members with access issues (like undocumented and senior populations) **access needed services and resources**
- Austin
  - “Projects that **enhance childcare and early childhood outcomes** in Austin, especially in the City’s historically underserved communities.”
- Cincinnati
  - Grants to **social service providers**, including educational support, childcare, food banks, homeless shelters, youth employment, recreation, youth mental health support, and affordable housing
- Boston
  - **Behavioral health support** and **family mentoring and leadership** through Boston Public Schools



## Definition

- **Public Spaces and Resources** include spaces and programs available for all, including parks, schools, community programming, and involvement and communication with local government.

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**Public Spaces  
and Resources**



## References in Existing Plans

- **2020 Park District Strategic Plan** – Encourage a sense of place and uniqueness in Urbana parks, which creates vibrant spaces for park and facility users.
- **2016 Bicycle Master Plan** – Establish the Urbana Green Loop trail, to connect all of Urbana's parks, in concert with the Urbana Park District Trails Master Plan.
- **2013-2020 Sustainable Water Management Plan** – Support the access to and use of recreational waters.
- **2012 Downtown Urbana Plan** – Develop engaging public spaces and streetscapes.

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## Individual Comments (Imagine Urbana)

- "Growth/development of **downtown area**"
- "Continue to offer **arts to all**"
- "Invest in **school facilities and public spaces** so that **all areas of Urbana** and families are thriving."
- "Host more **free community events**"
- "Allow more **community control over resources** for neighborhoods."
- "More **outdoor space for events** and concerts"
- "**participatory budgeting; teen involvement**, especially of multi-lingual, Black and Brown youth, in government (with some kind of incentives or stipends); more **public art**"
- "get **more people involved** in local gov't."

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## Existing Initiative Examples

- Urbana Current Activities
  - Arts and Culture Program
  - Market at Square
  - Boneyard Creek Crossing
  - City Facility Updates in CIP
  - Urban Forest and downtown landscaping
  - Urbana Park District programming

Sustainable  
Infrastructure

Public Health  
and Safety

Economic Recovery  
and Development

Adequate and  
Affordable  
Housing

Human Rights  
and Social  
Services

**Public Spaces  
and Resources**



## ARPA Case Studies

- St Louis
  - **Youth jobs and programming**, including free transit for youth, employment access programming, creating designated safe community spaces, and youth basketball leagues and soccer programming.
- Lexington, KY
  - **“Access to Quality Greenspace for Disadvantaged Communities”** and **“Neighborhood Recreation Improvements Delayed due to COVID Economic Impacts”** identified as primary ARPA project categories for the city, including 17 different facility improvement projects (improvements to pools, basketball courts, restrooms, etc)
- Austin
  - Grants for arts and culture nonprofits struggling due to pandemic, among other **arts funding**, support for **music venues and workers** harmed by the pandemic
- Cincinnati
  - **Performing Arts Support Grants**, extending the **hours at city recreation facilities** to provide opportunities for youth recreation, providing resources to **design and construct parklets** to improve dining and pedestrian space

# Summary

- ARPA Federal Guidelines
- Urbana's Possible ARPA Priorities
- **Next Steps**
  - **Public Input**
  - **Concept Plan**



# Public Input

## Collect Public Input

- Online Survey
  - *Which priority area(s) should be the focus of COVID recovery funds in the City of Urbana? (Select top 1 or 2 from a list of priority areas determined by Council)*
    - Sustainable Infrastructure
    - Public Health and Safety
    - Economic Recovery and Development
    - Adequate and Affordable Housing
    - Human Rights and Social Services
    - Public Spaces and Resources
  - **Input from Council:**
    - Should we present all 6 of the previously discussed priority areas?  
Are we missing anything?

# Public Input

## Collect Public Input

- Online Survey
  - *Which priority area(s) should be the focus of COVID recovery funds in the City of Urbana? (Select top 1 or 2 from a list of priority areas determined by Council)*

- Sustainable Infrastructure
- Public Health and Safety
- Economic Recovery and Development
- Adequate and Affordable Housing
- Public Spaces and Resources
- Human Rights and Social Services

Identified in recent mayor and council priorities

Received most comments in 2021 comprehensive plan public input

Additional priorities identified from city plans

- **Input from Council:**
  - Should we present all 6 of the previously discussed priority areas?  
Are we missing anything?

# Public Input

## Collect Public Input (continued)

- Online Survey (continued)
  - *What specific goals do residents want to achieve within their selected priority? (open ended)*
  - *Ideas for programs or funding that don't fit within the priority areas listed?*
  - *Optional demographic questions to ensure representation*

# Public Input

## Collect Public Input (continued)

- Survey Outreach
  - General population – City website, social media, press
  - ADA web compliant and translated into Spanish, French, and Mandarin
  - Set up website for ongoing ARPA documentation
  - Target disproportionately impacted groups and areas – neighborhood listservs, local businesses, schools, etc.
  - Specific outreach suggestions or contacts from Council from their respective wards?
  - Additional targeted outreach to institutions/organizations/stakeholders who may request funds?
  - Paper copies made available at City Hall, library, other locations as requested

# Public Input

- After administering and processing public input:
  - Next presentation to council (April)
    - Public input results
    - Work with council to finalize ARPA funding priorities and develop related goals
      - What more information do we need to know?
      - What type of input does Mayor/Council want to add?
      - What more input do you think we need?
      - What are preliminary thoughts for narrowing scope?
      - What are the desired outcomes within priorities?

# Concept Plan

**Draft Concept Plan:** A comprehensive guide to the City's ARPA strategy, goals, and application process

- Define the City's overall strategy and goals for their ARPA funding consistent with identified priority/ies and federal guidance
- Define metrics to measure progress toward goals
- Define metrics to evaluate applications for funding
- Outline the responsibilities and ongoing reporting requirements for funding recipients

# ARPA Management for the City of Urbana

## Draft Timeline

*Fall 2021 – Spring 2022*

### **Background Research and Synthesis of Priorities**

- Compile information on
  - ARPA regulations
  - Existing city priorities
  - Gaps in existing priorities
- Collect additional input from Urbana residents to refine ARPA priorities
- Set up website for ongoing ARPA documentation
- Work with City to finalize priorities eligible for ARPA funding

*Spring 2022 – Fall 2022*

### **Develop Concept Plan**

- Develop overall strategy and goals consistent with city goals and federal guidance
- Define metrics to measure progress toward goals and evaluate applications for funding
- Draft a Concept Plan that will serve as a comprehensive guide to the City's ARPA strategy, goals, and application process
- Finalize the Concept Plan with the City

*Fall 2022 – Spring 2027*

### **Implement Plan**

- Outreach, education, and applicant recruitment
- Create and maintain online application forms
- Work with City to process applications, choose recipients, and document process
- Fulfill ongoing reporting requirements of ARPA with Department of Treasury