



ARPA UPDATE AS OF JULY 12, 2022

CENTER FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Funding Priorities

The Center for Economic Recovery (CER) has been making steady progress in its strategic process to ensure that Cleveland invests this once-in-a-lifetime federal funding in transformational, sustainable, ethical, and equitable ways. Mayor Bibb’s Rescue & Transformation Plan identifies 10 priority areas, guided by recommendations that the Cleveland community set forth in the Transition Report.

The CER analyzed 2021 spending, existing Council allocations and unencumbered funds and determined that approximately \$462 million in ARPA and other one-time funds is available. This figure is an estimate and subject to change as several of the priority areas may have overlapping success measures, share initiatives, or require less or more funding than anticipated.

Strategic Process

Mayor Bibb has assigned Chiefs and Directors as leads for their priority areas. In this role, they have been tasked with establishing a strategy, defining objectives, identifying measures of success, reviewing and evaluating proposals for funding.

LEADS INCLUDE:

Modern & Transparent City Hall: Chief of Innovation & Technology Roy Fernando and Chief of Operations Bonnie Teeuwen

Violence Prevention & Public Safety: Chief of Public Safety Karrie Howard, Interim Chief of Police Dornat Drummond, and Chief of Youth & Family Success Sonya Pryor-Jones

Inclusive Economic Recovery: Chief of Integrated Development Jeff Epstein and Director of Economic Development Tessa Jackson

Stabilizing the Budget: Chief of Finance Ahmed Abonamah

Priority	Approximate Allocations (millions)
Inclusive Recovery / Housing for All	\$195
Budget Stabilization*	\$110
Modern City Hall	\$50
Violence Prevention and Safety	\$30
Closing the Digital Divide	\$25
Education for Everyone	\$20
Lead Safe Cleveland	\$17
Arts and Neighborhood Amenities	\$10
Civic Participation Fund	\$5
TOTAL	\$462

* This amount is intended to come from one-time funds in the General Fund

Closing the Digital Divide: Senior Government Affairs Strategist Austin Davis

Lead-Safe Cleveland: Senior Lead Strategist Karen Dettmer

Housing for All: Director of Housing Sally Martin and Director of Community Development Alyssa Hernandez

Arts & Neighborhood Amenities: Director of Community Development Alyssa Hernandez and Director of Planning Joyce Huang

Education for Everyone: Chief of Education Holly Trifiro and Chief of Youth & Family Success Sonya Pryor-Jones

Civic Participation Fund: Chief of Government Affairs Ryan Puentes

Progress Update

These leads have been meeting with the Center for Economic Recovery to present and define their strategic frameworks for their priority area. These strategies include their overarching objectives, strategic frame for achieving impact, galvanizing success measures, considerations about racial equity, and plans for environmental sustainability. The purpose of these strategies is to ensure that the City is not randomly allocating these unprecedented dollars into one-off projects but rather advancing outcomes that will help transform the City in these 10 priority areas to benefit the people of Cleveland in the long term. Over the past two weeks, the CER has met with leads and co-leads on: Inclusive Economic Recovery, Closing the Digital Divide, Violence Prevention & Public Safety, Education for Everyone, Housing for All, Arts & Neighborhood Amenities, A Modern & Transparent City Hall, and A Lead Safe Cleveland.

In July 2022, the CER is developing strategic frameworks to evaluate proposals for initiatives that advance the following priorities:

- ☑ Inclusive Economic Recovery
- ☑ Closing the Digital Divide
- ☑ Violence Prevention & Public Safety
- ☑ Education for Everyone

To ensure that the CER team evaluates each funding proposal ethically and fairly, Chief Ethics Officer Delante Spencer Thomas has developed a conflict of interest policy.

Collaboration

The Center for Economic Recovery is working in collaboration with with city partners in Detroit and Saint Paul through the Brookings Transforming Cities Lab. This is a peer-learning group that enables Cleveland to understand how peer other cities are taking transformative action and advancing strategic goals through their own processes. The CER have also been working alongside local partners, including Greater Cleveland Partnership and Adie Tomer from the Brookings Institution, to map additional federal funds in order to provide maximum impact for the City.

Proposed Initiatives

On June 30, 2022, the Bibb Administration and Cleveland City Council released a joint Request for Proposal (RFP) focused on digital adoption and affordable access services for Cleveland residents. Mayor Bibb is committed to a robust digital equity agenda that directly addresses the City's digital divide. This RFP represents the launch of one of the first Bibb Administration's substantial ARPA-supported initiatives, allocating \$25 million this RFP focuses on Cleveland residents' most pressing demands today: services to support individuals in their journey toward digital adoption, and access to high-quality and affordable broadband service plan. As Cleveland builds toward the future, the City recognizes that residents' ability to fully participate in the 21st century will require ubiquitous fiber-optic infrastructure and the widespread deployment of Smart City technology.

