

# **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** 2021 Report

**City of Toledo, Ohio Recovery Plan** 



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# General Overview

#### **Executive Summary**

By May 2022, the City of Toledo ("Toledo") will receive \$180.9 million from the federal government through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

ARPA is an opportunity to respond to many unmet needs of Toledo residents, including low and moderate income Toledoans and Toledoans of color who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

As a recipient of ARPA funds allocated for state and local governments, Toledo has the opportunity to award and expend its funds in ways that will best meet the needs of its residents and businesses, provided these uses fall under one of four categories outlined in the American Rescue Plan Act law.

#### **Statutory Eligible Uses**

- Responding to COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts.
- Providing premium pay to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- The provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Making necessary investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure.

Through collaborative efforts between Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz and Toledo City Council, Toledo is developing a **Toledo Recovery Plan** that focuses on five investment areas to ensure that the needs of Toledo's constituents are met with the ARPA funding.

#### **Toledo Recovery Plan Investment Areas**

- Youth, Recreation, and Parks
- Safe and Livable Neighborhoods
- Job Creation and Economic Development
- Green and Healthy Housing
- Avoiding Cuts to City Services



Toledo's Recovery Plan is in early developmental stages. A community engagement process is currently underway and the results of this engagement will inform and help to craft the final Toledo Recovery Plan. Toledo's Recovery Plan will align the statutory eligible uses with the five investment areas and community input to provide a comprehensive spending strategy for the ARPA funds. This Recovery Plan will be in development during fall 2021 with a final plan introduced prior to the end of the year.

#### **Uses of Funds**

The expenditure of Toledo's ARPA funds is not expected to begin until the Toledo Recovery Plan is completed, announced to the constituents of Toledo, and adopted in ordinance by Toledo City Council. In light of this process, of the \$180.9 million awarded to Toledo, only \$1.0 million has been appropriated to date for programs and projects through the budget process and \$0 has been expended. Please see the "Project Inventory" section for a summary of initially proposed projects.

When evaluating these programs and projects, and all others that are proposed for the Toledo Recovery Plan, Toledo will be using "SMART Analysis" to ensure oversight and promote a strong and equitable recovery in Toledo. Toledo's commitment to "SMART Analysis" was approved by Toledo City Council on June 9, 2021 with adoption of Resolution 299-21.

#### **Elements of SMART Analysis**

- Sustainable every program or project meets Toledo's current needs without compromising the economic ability of future generations to meet their needs
- Meet the US Treasury guidelines for every program or project
- Accountable every program or project is justified for its use of ARPA funds
- Return on Investment every program or project has specific and measurable results that are quantitative and/or qualitative and that Toledo has sought collaboration to minimize cost and maximize outcomes
- Transparent the who, what, how, when and where of each dollar spent is clear

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

Toledo is committed to reporting on equitable outcomes once the Toledo Recovery Plan is completed and projects are underway. As appropriate, qualitative and



quantitative metrics will be provided to report on progress towards achieving equitable outcomes for those projects that aim to address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic and provide services to disproportionately impacted communities.

#### **Community Engagement**

Toledo launched a community engagement process in July to solicit input and gather feedback from residents and businesses on how to direct Toledo's \$180.9 million ARPA funding. This process engages the community through several means in order to capture feedback from a diverse group of constituents. All information regarding the Toledo Recovery Plan is available at <u>toledo.oh.gov/recovery</u>.



#### Community Input Sessions

Five in-person meetings and one virtual meeting have been held to discuss the elements of the Toledo Recovery Plan and hear from residents and businesses.



#### Online Community Survey

A survey was launched on Toledo's website to ask constituents to rank elements of the Toledo Recovery Plan and provide additional spending ideas. Hard copies also available.



#### Toledo Recovery Plan Email

There is an option on Toledo's website to provide additional thoughts on the Toledo Recovery by leaving an email message.

All input and comments received through this process will be compiled, reviewed, and used to drive decision-making for programs and projects to include in the Toledo Recovery Plan. The initial phase of community engagement will conclude at the end of August and the final proposed Toledo Recovery Plan is expected to be introduced to the community prior to the end of the year.



#### **Labor Practices**

Toledo's existing policies and procedures surrounding procurement support strong labor standards and aim to provide efficient delivery of programs, projects and services. The following practices will continue to be employed as Toledo spends ARPA funds approved in the Toledo Recovery Plan.

#### **Competitive Procurement**

Toledo uses competitive bid processes to secure the lowest and best prices while creating equal opportunities for vendor partners to supply goods and services.

#### **Project Labor Agreements**

Construction projects over \$100,000 require a project labor agreement approved by the Northwest Ohio Building and Construction Trades Council.

#### **Living Wage Requirements**

Toledo and certain employers doing business with Toledo are required to pay employees working on city-funded contracts at rates at least 110%-130% above the Federal Poverty Level. These rates are updated annually according to the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

#### **Prevailing Wage Requirements**

Prevailing wages must be paid for any "public improvement" with total costs at or above \$10,000. Public improvement includes all buildings, roads, streets, alleys, sewers, ditches, sewage disposal plants, water works, and all other structures or works constructed by a public authority or by any person pursuant to a contract with a public authority.

#### **Local Preference**

Local preference is used to compare and evaluate bids, adding weight to bids submitted by businesses whose principal location is in (1) Toledo, (2) Lucas County or (3) Northwest Ohio.

#### **MBE/WBE** Certification

Toledo has a strategic Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) certification process to encourage those businesses owned and controlled by minorities or women to become certified.



#### **Use of Evidence**

Toledo is committed to reporting on performance metrics for those projects included in the Toledo Recovery Plan that use evidence-based interventions. This evidence information will be detailed where applicable in the project inventory section of future reports.

#### Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Toledo has not expended any funds through August 31, 2021.

# Project Inventory

Through August 31, 2021 ARPA funds have been appropriated for five projects. These budgeted projects will be considered and evaluated for final inclusion in the Toledo Recovery Plan and if approved, performance metrics will be identified and outlined. Although budgeted, no expenditure of these funds has occurred.

### **Clean Toledo Blight Program**

To provide services for disproportionately impacted communities through the reduction of blight in neighborhoods located in qualified census tracts.

#### **Expenditure Category**

Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities, Social Determinants of Health, Other

# **Toledo Racial Equity Inclusion Council**

To support community strategies to address the root causes of poverty and building wealth within communities of color by focusing on social justice, education, workforce development, health and well-being, economic development, housing, and youth.

#### Expenditure Category

Negative Economic Impacts, Other Economic Support

# **Vision Zero**

To increase community safety on Toledo's streets by promoting safe, healthy and equitable mobility though sustainable strategies that prioritize equity, community engagement and data analysis.

#### Expenditure Category

Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities, Social Determinants of Health, Other



# \$200,000

\$695,700

# \$60,000



#### **Minority Business Assistance Center**

To support the growth and sustainability of small, minority-owned and disadvantaged businesses to contribute to job creation and economic growth.

#### Expenditure Category

Negative Economic Impacts, Small Business Economic Assistance

#### **Personnel Protective Equipment**

\$71,750

To support safe emergency medical service operations for members of the Toledo Fire and Rescue department.

**Expenditure Category** Public Health, Personal Protective Equipment

