

# Town of Acton Draft Preliminary ARPA Investment Priorities

The following projects and programs were identified as preliminary investment priorities following a needs assessment and stakeholder input. The cost to implement these items is estimated at nearly \$12M. The next step is to solicit feedback from the community and work with the Select Board to finalize the plan to invest the available \$7.072M in ARPA funds.

## Revenue Replacement *\$3,295,000 in needs identified*

- P1** Replace revenue related to FY21 local receipt shortfall to deliver services in FY22 *\$400,000*
- P2** Convert the historic Asa Parlin House and surrounding infrastructure into an ADA compliant Community/Cultural center *\$1,000,000*
- P3** Telephone system upgrade to integrate with new school (ABRSD Request) *\$595,000*
- P4** Replace revenue related to FY21 Kindergarten/Extended Day revenue shortfalls (ABRSD Request) *\$425,000*
- P5** NARA accessibility improvements such as replacing the damaged boardwalk at NARA park with an ADA compliant and new ADA compliant walkways *\$400,000*
- P6** Funding to acquire new open spaces and improve existing open spaces *\$250,000*
- P7** Town wide Sustainability initiatives such as an electric vehicle pilot program for public safety, constructing solar arrays, and energy efficiency improvements to public facilities to advance efforts towards achieving net zero carbon emissions *\$200,000*
- P8** Virtual and hybrid meeting technology support *\$25,000*

## Water, Sewer, Broadband Infrastructure *\$3,170,000 in needs identified*

- P9** Construct a sewer main extension to the Acton Housing Authority site at 364 Main Street *\$2,000,000*
- P10** Stormwater improvements at Fort Pond Brook related to the River Street dam *\$600,000*
- P11** Conduct a sewer feasibility study along the Great Road Corridor to support existing businesses and create new economic development opportunities in this commercial district *\$400,000*
- P12** Acton Water District water main upgrades in Kelley's Corner (AWD Request) *\$100,000*
- P13** Extend broadband and utility service along Quarry Road *\$70,000*

## Address Negative Economic Impacts *\$1,350,000 in needs identified*

- P14** A new online permitting system to streamline the building, health, conservation and planning permits to improve services and transparency *\$450,000*
- P15** Streetscape and parking improvements along Massachusetts Avenue and improvements to the Gardner Field in West Acton Center to help small businesses attract and retain customers *\$400,000*
- P16** Design and construct community recreation facilities including a dog park at 362 Main Street *\$200,000*
- P17** Forgivable loan programs to make it easier and more cost effective for residents and businesses to implement energy efficiency upgrades and reduce carbon emissions *\$100,000*
- P18** Implement recommendations from the Local Rapid Recovery Program to support businesses along the Great Road Corridor, including wayfinding signage and shared marketing services *\$100,000*
- P19** Provide financial incentives for businesses to install EV chargers in locations that would attract customers to frequent local businesses *\$40,000*
- P20** Update the existing Complete Street Plan to improve infrastructure for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists *\$35,000*
- P21** Develop a public art plan and include public art in community spaces to help encourage pedestrian activity in business districts *\$25,000*

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## Support Public Health Response *\$1,575,750 in needs identified*

- P22** Improve air quality in public facilities by improving HVAC systems \$500,000
- P23** A new full-time licensed social worker position to support Acton residents and help oversee social service programs \$300,000
- P24** Permanent Outdoor Learning Spaces for 6 schools (ABRSD Request) \$255,000
- P25** Public health services and supplies in response to the Covid19 pandemic (vaccine, PPE, testing, contact tracing, etc.) \$200,000
- P26** Covid Mitigation Measures such as Graduation, AP Exams, Tents, Tables, Chairs for April 2021 Return to School (ABRSD Request) \$102,000
- P27** Social Emotional Screener & Curriculum (ABRSD Request) \$63,750
- P28** Expand and improve outreach to increase access to public health information and services \$50,000
- P29** Expand curbside services at the Memorial Library and West Acton Citizen's Library to enhance literacy opportunities \$40,000
- P30** Create an outdoor meeting space next to Town Hall to facilitate outdoor customer service interactions and staff meetings \$40,000
- P31** Study to analyze the Town's COVID-19 response and create a best practices manual for emergency management response \$25,000

## Equity Focused Services *\$2,133,200 in needs identified*

- P32** Construct and rehabilitate affordable housing units in Acton for individuals and families \$500,000
- P33** Qualifying grants for tuition free ADK based on income level over 3 years (ABRSD Request) \$510,000
- P34** Qualifying grants for tuition free Extended Day Programming based on income level over 3 years (ABRSD Request) \$510,000
- P35** Emergency Rental Assistance program to assist households that are unable to pay rent \$300,000
- P36** Provide free After School Tutoring Program over 2 years (ABRSD Request) \$85,000
- P37** Community Food Program Mar-Jun 2021 (ABRSD Request) \$78,200
- P38** Childcare subsidy program to assist qualified families at or below 80% of the Area Median Income \$75,000
- P39** Workshops and programs related to mental health, equity and empathy \$25,000
- P40** Develop a youth council program to facilitate youth engagement in local government and provide expanded opportunities for participation in decisions being made at the local level \$25,000
- P41** Pilot program to provide a universal access program that ensures equal access to public recreational facilities by providing specialized equipment, programs and techniques \$25,000

## Premium Pay

No proposals for this category

## Administration *\$300,000 in needs identified*

- P42** Grant Administrator/Procurement Officer to support the management of the ARPA funding and other federal and state grant programs for three years \$275,000
- P43** financial consulting and audit services to ensure compliance \$25,000