

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date: October 17, 2022

Action Required: Approval of Resolution

Presenter: Chris Cullinan, Director of Finance

Staff Contacts: Chris Cullinan, Director of Finance  
Michael Rogers, City Manager  
Samuel Sanders, Jr., Deputy City Manager  
Ashley Marshall, Deputy City Manager

**Title: Appropriating American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds \$565,000 (1 of 2 readings)**

**Background**

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the Act) to provide additional relief for individuals and businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The Act includes funding for state, local, and tribal governments as well as education and COVID-19-related testing, vaccination support, and research.

The City of Charlottesville received a total of \$19,609,708 from the US Treasury Department in two equal tranches in May 2021 and June 2022. These funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026.

There is currently \$2,349,565 of unallocated ARP funds. This appropriation would utilize \$565,000 of these unallocated funds.

**Discussion**

This appropriation includes four requests that are detailed below. These requests are eligible for ARP funds per the guidance provided by US Treasury.

Request #1: City Hall Ambassadors.

Amount Requested: \$50,000,00.

ARP Eligibility: Responding to the public health emergency.

Description: This request would provide sufficient funds to continue for the provision of temporary staff to guide and service customers in lobby area of City Hall to maintain social distancing and capacity limits for the remainder of FY'23.

Request #2: Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program for City facilities.

Amount Requested: \$300,000.

ARP Eligibility: Responding to the public health emergency.

Description: Currently, approximately 68 AEDs reside in City-owned properties across the City of Charlottesville. Over 90% of these AEDs were purchased in 2008, with the rest purchased just a short time later. The life expectancy of an AED is usually a minimum of eight years, with an average life expectancy of between 10 to 15 years of service. As the year 2023 approaches, so does the 15<sup>th</sup> year of service practically all of the AEDs for the City of Charlottesville.

In addition to the need for new AEDs, the City needs more AEDs. Simply put, some areas of City premises have only one AED servicing several thousands of square feet. In an emergency, having to locate an AED in another area of a larger building takes away precious time from rendering aid to the patient.

In order to promote a safer and healthier work environment, the Office of Risk Management intends to increase the number of AEDs on City property from 68 to 100 and strategically place mobile trauma kits in high traffic and highly staffed areas of City properties.

Request #3: City Access Control Badges.

Amount Requested: \$15,000.

ARP Eligibility: Responding to the public health emergency.

Description: This request would fund upgrades to the City's access control badge system. The upgrade includes new badges and necessary software and hardware updates. The system helps ensure social distancing between staff and between staff and the public visiting City facilities.

Request #4: Continuation of Emergency Shelter Operations at Premier Circle – City share.

Amount Requested: \$200,000.

ARP Eligibility: Responding to negative economic impacts.

Description: Premier Circle Emergency Shelter is a 92-bed, non-congregate emergency shelter project operated by People and Communities Engaged in Ministry (PACEM) in partnership with Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless (formerly TJACH), Piedmont Housing Alliance (PHA), and Charlottesville Area Community Fund (CACF), and located at 405 Premier Circle in Albemarle County.

There are currently 84 individuals residing in the emergency shelter all with health complications that place them at increased risk of COVID 19.

A total of \$500,000 is being requested to fund critical emergency shelter operations for January 2023 to April 2023. The City's share is \$200,000. A request of \$200,000 is being made to Albemarle County along with a \$100,000 request to UVA Health.

### **Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan**

This resolution contributes to Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan, to be an inclusive community of self-sufficient residents; Goal 2 to be a healthy and safe City; and Goal 5 to be a well-managed and responsive organization.

### **Community Engagement**

None.

### **Budgetary Impact**

This request totals \$565,000. If Council approves this appropriation, the remaining balance of unallocated ARP funds will be \$1,784,565.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Suggested Motion: "I move the RESOLUTION appropriating the amount of \$565,000 of American Rescue Plan funds for eligible local activities."

### **Alternatives**

Council may elect not to appropriate funding for these purposes at this time or may elect other ARP eligible program expenditures.

### **Attachments**

1. 10.17.22 Resolution ARP Funds