

CHAPTER 2024-73

No. 482     AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2022-60, NO. 389, ADOPTING  
THE COVID-19 EQUITIES PROGRAM BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD OF  
JANUARY 6, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024, APPROVED  
NOVEMBER 18, 2022

Approved December 9, 2024

*Be it ordained by the City of Providence:*

**Section 1** - The \$10 million budget for January 6, 2022 - December 31, 2024 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding under the category entitled, “COVID-19 Equities Program” is adopted as follows:

**Recognition of Harm**

Reimagining Building & Sites \$400,000

**Equity Building**

Capacity Investments in Community Organizations \$500,000  
Earn & Learn Workforce Training \$997,294.70  
Small Business Acceleration \$699,136  
Expansion of Youth Internship Program \$250,000  
United Way COVID-19 Equity Fund \$1,750,000

**Creation & Development of Media**

Expand Operational Capacity \$170,011.28  
Preserve, Safeguard & Promote Cultural Programs \$200,000

**Creation Of Survivors & Descendants of Urban Renewal Fund**

Establish A Fund Dedicated To Urban Renewal Impacts \$200,000  
Develop Grant Program To Assist Urban Renewal Impacted  
Neighborhoods \$200,000

**Expansion Of Cultural Engagement & Educational Opportunities**

Creation of K-12 “A Matter of Truth” Curriculum \$50,000  
Advancing Public Education Campaigns \$50,000  
Creation Of Artist In Residence Fund \$100,000  
K-12 Curriculum Grounded In Rhode Island & New England  
History \$100,000  
Creation Of Resident Scholarship Fund \$500,000  
Creation of Fund For Home-Based Day Care Providers \$250,000  
Invest In District Wide Coordinator For Educational Enrichment \$100,000

**Movement Towards A More Equitable Healthcare System**

Expansion of Mental & Behavioral Support Programs \$150,000  
Collaborate With Neighborhood Providers Including Barbershops \$250,000

**Accelerate The Evolution of AAAG Into Policy Institute Model**

Creation of Policy & Research Center \$150,000

**TOTAL \$7,066,441.98**

**Section 2** - This budget is informed by the Providence Municipal Reparations Commission charged with the task of developing and recommending appropriate policies and programs that can directly address documented socio-economic disparities that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission recommended that the City of Providence and external partners implement an 11-Point Investment Plan that advances reparations, defined as “closing the present-day racial wealth and equity gap.”

**Section 3-** All funding the above categories will use the four eligibility categories recommended by the Commission for reparations investments that would most accurately reflect the City of Providence’s unique history and also respond to the residents in the present day with the most measurable need which are Indigenous People, African Heritage People, Qualified Census Tracts and Neighborhoods and Residents Facing Poverty.

**Section 4** - The Mayor’s Administration and the City Council are partnering with the United Way through the establishment of the United Way COVID-19 Equity Fund for the purpose of attracting additional investment from outside partners in order to expand the amount of resources available to carry out the mission of the COVID-19 Equities Program as outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of this budget. Any and all proposed expenditures from the United Way COVID-19 Equity Fund shall require authorization by resolution of the Providence City Council following a public hearing in order to receive community feedback on the proposed expenditure. The Mayor’s Administration and the City’s ARPA Consultant shall be responsible for monitoring and ensuring compliance with all ARPA regulations for all expenditures through the COVID-19 Equity Fund, as well as all programing contained in this budget. All programs contained in this budget, as well as future expenditures from the COVID-19 Equity Fund shall align with the recommendations noted in the City of Providence Reparations Commission Report.

**Section 5** - By December 15, 2024, any ARPA funds not under contract will be re-obligated to revenue recovery.

**Section 6** - If by March 31, 2026, any ARPA funds not spent as outlined in Sections 1-5, the City will reserve the right to re-obligate those funds. The Committee on Finance will receive a report on unspent funds if applicable.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
DEC 02 2024  
FIRST READING  
READ AND PASSED  
*Jina L. Mastrosianni*  
CLERK

IN CITY  
COUNCIL  
DEC 05 2024  
FINAL READING  
READ AND PASSED  
*Rachel M. Miller*  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT.  
*Jina L. Mastrosianni*  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

*Brett P. Smith*  
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Mayor  
Date: 12/9/24





MAYOR BRETT P. SMILEY  
CITY OF PROVIDENCE

# 2024 ARPA Update and Proposal

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11/26/24



## **Process Overview**

- 1 Reviewed all ordinance lines (including ordinance lines from COVID-19 Equities Program ordinance) to determine status of funds and potential for additional allocations or areas of reinvestment.
- 2 Held meetings with all departmental leads and project leads to discuss EOY Treasury obligation deadline and discuss plans for contracting and spending funds.
- 3 Identified 11 ordinance lines with the potential for allocation and reinvestment, either in full or partial.
- 4 Identified 63 ordinance lines that are either fully spent or on track to be spent.
- 5 Proposed reinvestment of ARPA dollars to revenue recovery.

# Proposal for Reinvestment Across All Funds

The below proposal recommends allocation for reinvestment:

Ordinance Line	New Allocation
Revenue Recovery	\$4,405,830.73
Total	\$4,405,830.73







# Proposal for Reinvestment

- Total of 10 lines short-listed for reinvestment, sum of \$1,472,272.71.

Ordinance Line	Original Allocation	Notes	Potential for Reinvestment
Anti-Violence Investments	\$2,000,000	Remaining balance after successful Youth Mentorships and Summer Jobs. Created jobs for 418 students across 13 organizations across the city.	\$59,129.41
Cranston Street Armory	\$1,000,000	No path to program, recommended reinvestment given timeline.	\$1,000,000.00
Direct Relief to Providence Residents	\$500,000	Program successfully completed. Confirmed remaining balance.	\$3,721.00
Emergency Housing Solutions	\$3,774,410	Program successfully completed. Remaining balance from cost savings or funds forfeited by community partners.	\$80,224.52
Expand Rapid Rehousing	\$1,225,590	Program successfully completed. Remaining balance from cost savings or funds forfeited by community partners.	\$39,796.53
Hardest Hit Community Organization	\$300,000	Program successfully completed. Confirmed remaining balance.	\$5,130.00
Homelessness Intervention	\$500,000	Program successfully completed. Confirmed remaining balance.	\$710.00
Independent Auditor	\$300,000	Per conversation with CLA (auditor), they view their work as complete with the city given new revenue recovery designation.	\$278,163.78
Summer Jobs for Providence Youth	\$1,000,000	Program successfully completed. Confirmed remaining balance.	\$3,527.65
Year-round Youth Jobs	\$1,000,000	Program successfully completed. Confirmed remaining balance.	\$1,869.82
Total			\$1,472,272.71



MAYOR BRETT P. SMILEY  
CITY OF PROVIDENCE

# COVID-19 Equities Program

- Separately, after review, we are reinvesting \$2,933,558.02 within the COVID-19 Program Equities ordinance to revenue recovery to offset the increased allocation PPSD and K-12 education, a key priority from the Commission's [report](#).
- With respect to the rest of the program funds, \$6,123,540.08 is already under contract, with about 930K already BOCS awarded or soon to be awarded.

Ordinance Line	Original Allocation	Proposed New Allocation	Change	Notes
Homeownership & Financial Literacy	\$1,000,000.00	-	(\$1,000,000)	RFP released but city received only one bid, which was not sufficient.
Earn & Learn Workforce Training	\$1,000,000.00	\$997,294.70	(\$2,705.30)	Program successfully completed. Confirmed remaining balance.
Small Business Acceleration	\$1,500,000	\$699,136	(\$800,864)	Partially programmed and spent with remaining balance. Programs funded and planned to date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Small Business Assn. in Smith Hill (\$60,000)</li><li>- ESL certification for CNA and truck driving (\$100,000)</li><li>- Contractor to help recruit and support expansion of minority certification (\$150,000)</li><li>- Disparity study for women-owned and minority-owned enterprise (\$379,236)</li></ul>
Invest In Media Firms	\$250,000.00	-	(\$250,000)	RFP released twice. Only one bid received which was not sufficient.
Expand Operational Capacity	\$1,000,000.00	\$170,011.28	(\$829,988.72)	Two projects awarded with RIBBA and inspiring minds.
Funding To Establish History School	\$50,000.00	\$0	(\$50,000)	Challenging to program with level of funding.



# On Track for Full Spend from ARPA

- 63 lines are fully spent down, fully obligated, or dept. lead has shared clear plan for funds and plan to obligate and contract. (28 fully spent down in green.)

❖ Administrative Expenses	❖ Permanent Supportive Housing (PRA Transfer)
❖ Affordable and Alternate Housing Programming	❖ Pre-K and Early Learning Infrastructure Fund
❖ Affordable Housing Development (PRA transfer)	❖ Providence Center
❖ Arts, Culture and Special Events Support	❖ Providence Community Libraries
❖ Batastini Recreation Center	❖ Providence Public Library
❖ Capital City Community Center	❖ Providence Talks Early Learning Intervention, Federal Hill House
❖ Capital Investment – Recreation Centers	❖ Providence-Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau
❖ Cultural Facilities	❖ Public Art to Encourage Tourism
❖ Cybersecurity and Information Technology Investments	❖ PVDfest Producing Partner, FirstWorks
❖ Davey Lopes Recreation Center	❖ Revenue Recovery
❖ DaVinci Center	❖ Right to Counsel
❖ Downtown Open Spaces	❖ Roger Williams Park Gateway
❖ Elderly Service Supports	❖ Rogers Recreation Center
❖ Elmwood Community Center	❖ Sacket Recreation Center
❖ Equipment/Parking Meter Replacement	❖ Shared Use Infrastructure Grant Program
❖ Facilities Development Program – PRA Transfer	❖ Silver Lake Community Center Annex
❖ Federal Hill House	❖ Small Business Support
❖ Food Security Grant Program	❖ Stormwater and Sewer Repair
❖ Food Security Infrastructure Planning	❖ Street Sweeping & Sewer Repair
❖ Home Repair Program	❖ Summer Camp for Providence Residents
❖ India Point Resiliency Investments	❖ Tourism and Marketing
❖ John Rollins Recreation Center	❖ Vincent Brown Recreation Center
❖ Joslin Recreation Center	❖ Vincent Igliozi Recreation Center
❖ Kennedy Recreation Center	❖ Washington Park Community Center
❖ Mentoring Program	❖ Waterfire, Inc.
❖ Merino Park/WRWC Investments	❖ West End Community Center
❖ Mount Hope Neighborhood Association	❖ West End Recreation Center
❖ Nickerson Community Center	❖ Youth and Family Broadband
❖ Non-violence training	❖ Zuccolo Recreation Center
❖ Parks and Recreation Capital Investment	



# Catch-All Language in Ordinance

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- “Funding not contracted by December 15, 2024, will be allocated to revenue recovery.”
- “The City reserves the right to obligate remaining funds to revenue recovery if unspent by March 15, 2026.”



