

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Progress Update



AUSTIN FAISON
ARPA DIRECTOR

ERICA SATIN-HERNANDEZ
ARPA SPECIALIST

About ARPA



- **\$77.5M for COVID recovery projects**
 - Public health
 - Combatting the negative economic impacts of the pandemic
 - Serving the hardest-hit communities
 - Premium pay for essential workers, prioritizing low-income workers, capped rate \$13 per hour
 - Revenue loss for municipal government
 - Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure
- **Funds must be obligated by the end of calendar year 2024 and spend by the end of calendar year 2026**
 - Funds cannot be reallocated to different projects after 2024, so projects using the 2026 deadline should have a fixed budget

ARPA Funding Process



- Applicants (City departments and community-based organizations) meet with the ARPA team to ensure their proposal meets the ARPA funding guidelines
- Applicants submit their proposal via online portal
- Proposal reviewed by ARPA team and consultants, with edits requested as necessary
- Proposal sent to the Mayor for final approval
- Applicant notified and work begins

Representative Sample of ARPA Projects to Date



\$10,078,200 committed to date

- **Public Health Efforts**
 - Emergency management staff
 - Rapid testing for hardest-hit communities
 - Hand sanitizer in parks
 - Contact tracing and workplace COVID safety measures
 - Language- and culturally-appropriate community outreach workers
- **Youth Services**
 - Summer youth programs
 - Childcare tuition assistance program (\$6.1M)
- **Basic Needs**
 - Housing: rental assistance (\$1M), legal services, and emergency hotel
 - Food: cab to food and medical program, Just Eats boxes for SHA
 - Universal Basic Income (in process) (\$2M)
- **ARPA Administration**
 - ARPA office staff to manage application process
 - Translation, interpretation, and printing costs for community outreach

ARPA Community Engagement Timeline



- September 2021: Presentation to the City Council
- October 2021: First ARPA community forum
- October 2021 – March 2022: ARPA focus groups
 - 40+ meetings with constituents and CBO staff
- January 2022 – March 2022: ARPA survey
 - More than 800 responses
- March 2022: Presentation to the City Council and second ARPA community forum (March 29th)

The City of Somerville is getting ARPA Funding!

Join us for a virtual forum exploring how Somerville can use this once-in-a-generation investment!

Date: Wednesday, October 27th, 2021
Time: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Ways to join: Join online, call in from any phone, or livestream.
How to join: Visit www.somervillema.gov/virtual at the start time of the meeting for links or the call-in number. Or, call 311 (617-666-3311) for the meeting call-in number.

Somerville is preparing to invest more than \$77 million dollars in Local Relief Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act. Ensuring an equitable and prosperous recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is the City's top priority. To do that - we need your help! Get involved today to help set the City's priorities.

Don't forget to check out our project website! You can sign up for updates, register for forums and engagement events, learn more about ARPA, and take the ARPA spending survey: www.somervillema.gov/arpa

For ADA accommodations, please contact 311 at 617-666-3311 in advance. Closed captioning in English and interpretation in Spanish will be provided. Other Questions? Please reach out to: Erica Satin-Hernandez, ARPA Specialist at eshernandez@somervillema.gov



Somerville is preparing to invest more than \$77 million dollars in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Ensuring an equitable and prosperous recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is the City's top priority. To do that, we need your help!

RSVP to one or both of the in person events at the Mystic Activity Center for Somerville Housing Authority residents. Space for each event is limited to 30 people.

<https://mapc.ma/macarpaevents>

March 16th (Wednesday), 6:00 PM or April 2nd (Saturday), 12:30 PM

To stay up-to-date about the project please visit the project website: www.somervillema.gov/arpa. If you have any questions, please reach out to Erica Satin-Hernandez, ARPA Specialist, at eshernandez@somervillema.gov.

Somerville se está preparando para invertir más de 77 millones de dólares en fondos de la Ley del Plan de Rescate Estadounidense (ARPA) por sus siglas en inglés. La máxima prioridad para la Ciudad es lograr recuperarse de manera equitativa y próspera de la pandemia del COVID-19. Para hacerlo, necesitamos tu ayuda!

Utilice esta página para confirmar su asistencia a uno o ambos eventos en persona en el Mystic Activity Center para residentes de la Autoridad de Vivienda de Somerville. El espacio para cada evento está limitado a 30 personas

<https://mapc.ma/macarpaevents>

16 de Marzo (Miércoles), 6:00 PM o 2 de Abril (Sábado), 12:30 PM

Para mantenerse informado acerca del proyecto, por favor visita el sitio web del mismo: www.somervillema.gov/arpa. Si tienes alguna pregunta, por favor comunícate con Erica Satin-Hernandez, Especialista de la Ley ARPA, en el siguiente correo: eshernandez@somervillema.gov

Somerville está se preparando para investir mais de 77 milhões de dólares financiados pelo American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). A principal prioridade da cidade é garantir uma recuperação equilibrada e próspera da pandemia COVID-19. Precisamos da sua ajuda para fazer isso!

Por favor use esta página para confirmar presença a um ou ambos dos eventos presenciais no Mystic Activity Center para os residentes da Somerville Housing Authority. O espaço do evento é limitado para 30 pessoas.

<https://mapc.ma/macarpaevents>

14 de março (quarta) às 18:00h o 2 de abril (sábado) às 12:30 da tarde

Para se manter atualizado sobre o projeto, visite o site: www.somervillema.gov/arpa. Se você tiver alguma dúvida, entre em contato com a Erica Satin-Hernandez, especialista ARPA, pelo e-mail eshernandez@somervillema.gov

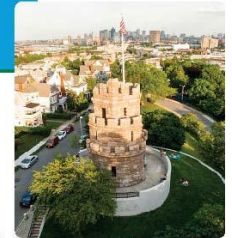
Forum: Somerville ARPA Funding Process

Tuesday, March 29, 2022
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

How to join:

- ✓ Register in advance mapc.ma/somervillearpaforum2
- ✓ Or visit www.somervillema.gov/virtual on March 29 at 6 p.m. for links and/or the call-in number
- ✓ Or call 311 (617-666-3311) for the meeting call-in number

Join us for an update on Somerville ARPA Engagement process



Since the City kicked off this project, we've met with residents, organizations, and other stakeholders to hear about their priorities and needs for ARPA spending. We also hosted a community-wide online survey that more than 650 people responded to.

At this meeting, you'll learn what we've heard already from residents and participate in small breakout discussions to help craft a community values statement. Don't forget to check out our project website!

www.somervillema.gov/arpa

For ADA accommodations, please contact 311 at 617-666-3311 in advance. Closed captioning in English and interpretation in Spanish will be provided.



Other Questions? Please reach out to: Erica Satin-Hernandez, ARPA Specialist, at eshernandez@somervillema.gov

Community Survey:

✓ How should the City of Somerville spend \$77 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding?



Take the survey: mapc.ma/somervillearpasurvey



Encuesta comunitaria:

✓ ¿Cómo debería la ciudad de Somerville gastar \$ 77 millones en fondos de la Ley del Plan de Rescate Estadounidense?



Responda la encuesta: mapc.ma/somervillearpasurvey

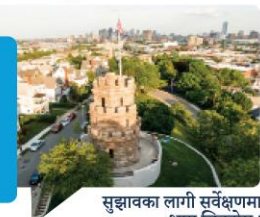


सामुदायिक सर्वेक्षण ।

✓ समरभिल सिटिले अमेरिकी उद्धार योजना ऐन कोषको \$७७ मिलियन रकम कसरी खर्च गर्नुपर्छ ?



सुझावका लागि सर्वेक्षणमा भाग लिनुहोस् । mapc.ma/somervillearpasurvey



A Few of Our Outreach Partners

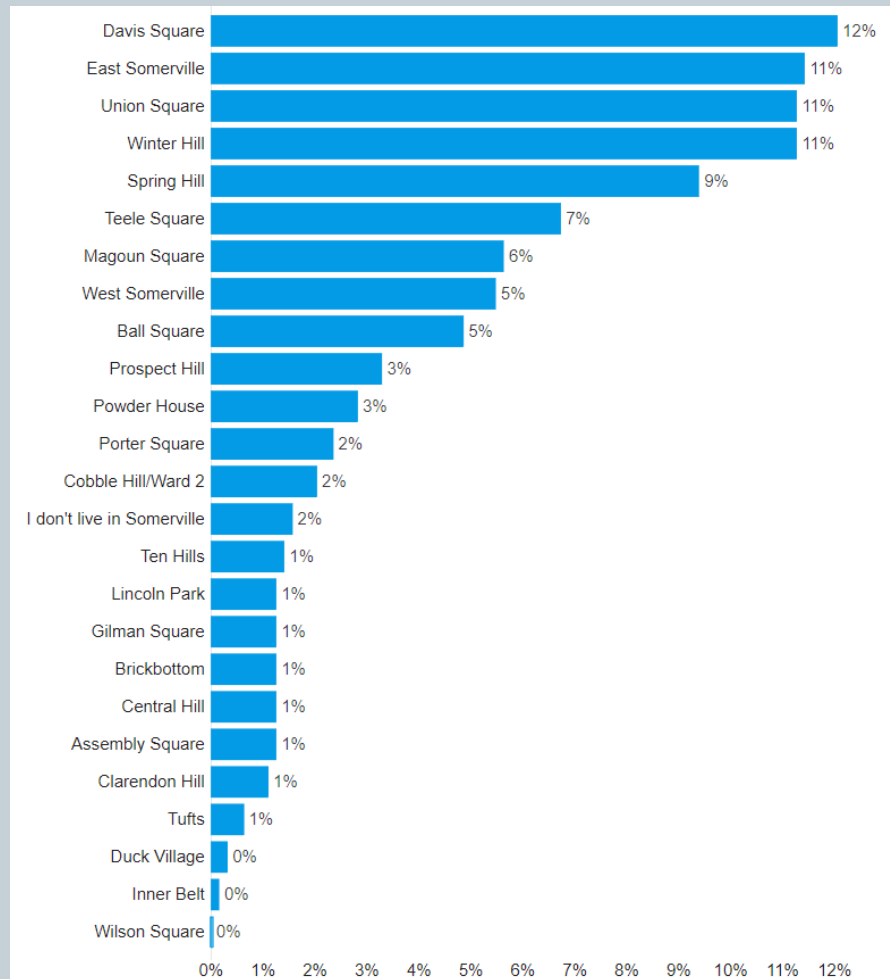


ARPA Community Engagement Findings



- **Top priorities**
 - Serving the hardest-hit communities
 - Addressing the negative economic impacts of the pandemic
 - Investing in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure
- **Top themes**
 - Affordable housing and rental assistance
 - Community center
 - Mental health services
 - Resource connectors and supporting service providers
 - Financial stability, including good jobs and direct payments
 - Safe streets and transportation

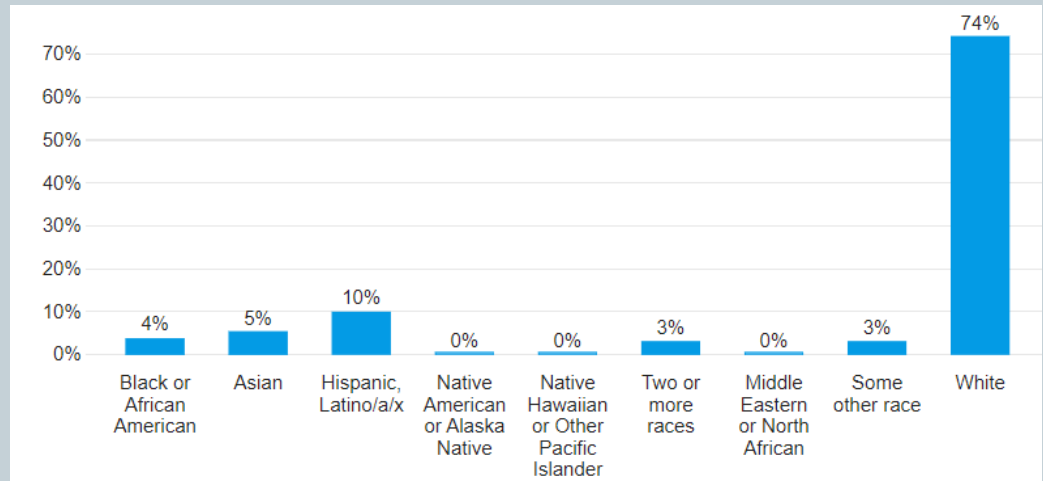
ARPA Survey Demographics



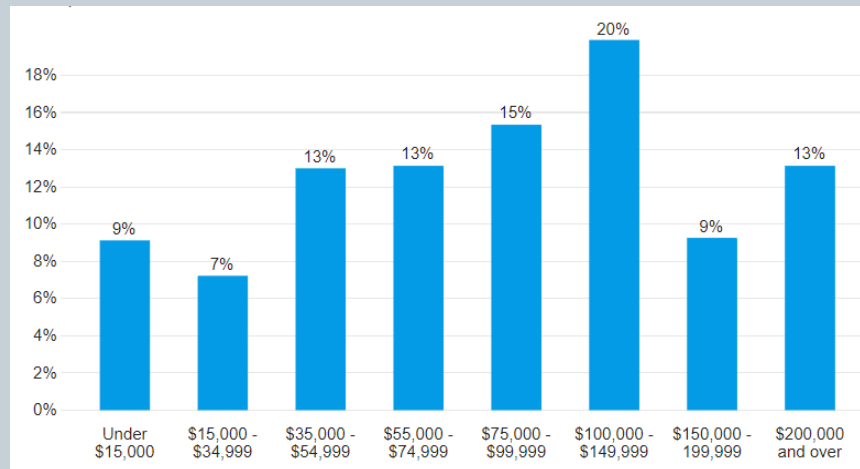
ARPA Survey Demographics



What race and ethnicity do you identify with?



What is your income?



ARPA Community Engagement Next Steps



- **Moving forward, we will...**
 - ...continue focus groups and meetings with CBO staff to keep gathering input from constituents
 - ...form a Mayor's Advisory Committee to engage constituents in the project prioritization process
 - ...create a statement of community values to which all proposed projects should adhere
 - ...deliver our community engagement findings to the Mayor and her Advisory Committee to inform her decision of how to roughly budget the ARPA funds between allowable uses
 - ...continue to publicize this information on the City's ARPA website (www.somervillema.gov/arpa)
 - ...and continue to be available for questions and comments

Contact Information



Austin Faison
ARPA Director

afaison@somervillema.gov

Erica Satin-Hernandez
ARPA Specialist

eshernandez@somervillema.gov

ARPA Website

www.somervillema.gov/arpa