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Bridge Michigan reporter



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Michigan Government

How to spend \$10B: Stimulus funds bonuses, water, monthly checks in Michigan





Michigan ARPA projects through Dec. 31, 2022

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E:E | fx Approved funding

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
22	Sterling Heights, RYAN ROAD CONCRETE REPAIRS	6.1-Provision of Government Services	This project includes concrete repairs of deteriorated concrete pavement between 14 Mile Road and	-	-	-	-
23	Washtenaw County Lead Abatement - Homes	2.20-Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	Address environmental health/home hazards of lead through remediation.	-	-	-	-
24	State Of Michigan Payroll Expenditures	6.1-Provision of Government Services	Payroll expenditures covered with revenue replacement funds.	883,000,000.00	883,000,000.00	883,000,000.00	883,000,000.00
25	State Of Michigan Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	5.15-Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	The purpose of the program is to improve drinking water infrastructure by funding drinking water infrastructure	606,150,000.00	-	-	-
26	State Of Michigan Growing MI Business	2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other	Department of Treasury to create and operate an afflicted business relief program to provide aid to	409,000,000.00	121,409,244.09	121,409,087.24	-
27	State Of Michigan Clean Water State Revolving Fund	5.5-Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	Allocates funds to provide communities with a source of funds for water pollution control projects,	398,000,000.00	-	-	-
28	State Of Michigan Healthcare Recruitment, Retention, and Training	1.14-Other Public Health Services	The focus of the program is to support recruitment, retention and training of health care professionals	300,000,000.00	233,414,311.00	111,967,676.22	-
29	State Of Michigan New State Public Health and Environmental Science Laboratory	1.14-Other Public Health Services	The new state public health and environmental science laboratory project will include the planning	260,000,000.00	743,340.00	430,117.75	-
30	State Of Michigan State Parks and Trail Infrastructure - Detroit	3.5-Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs	State parks and trail infrastructure, the department of natural resources must develop, improve, re	219,800,000.00	19,333,143.42	3,188,906.99	-
31	State Of Michigan Local Parks and Trails Infrastructure - Flint	2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhoods	Projects may include the development, renovation or redevelopment of public recreation facilities,	180,000,000.00	45,000.00	6,945.30	-
32	State Of Michigan Hospital COVID-19 Support	2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	Provide aid to hospitals to help cover negative economic impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic	160,000,000.00	160,000,000.00	160,000,000.00	160,000,000.00
33	State Of Michigan Unemployment Trust Fund Deposit	2.28-Contributions to UI Trust Funds	Deposit to Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund to partially address negative economic impacts a	150,000,000.00	150,000,000.00	150,000,000.00	150,000,000.00
34	State Of Michigan GSRP State Fiscal Recovery Funds	2.14-Healthy Childhood Environments: Early Learning	Funding to expand access for GSRP to provide part-day, school-day, or GSRP/Head Start blended	121,000,000.00	40,182,100.00	27,426,202.53	-
35	State Of Michigan Long-Term Care Facility Support	2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	Provide aid to long-term care facilities that have experienced a decline in the long-term care facilities	100,000,000.00	97,400,285.00	97,400,285.00	-
36	City Of Detroit, Michigan Blight Remediation - Industrial and Commercial	2.23-Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation	Blight Remediation - Industrial and Commercial is led by the Jobs and Economy Team (JET) in the	-	-	-	-
			Through demolition, environmental remediation, and site readiness activities, the program intends	-	-	-	-
	City Of Detroit, Michigan Blight Remediation - Industrial and Commercial	2.23-Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation	The City has approved the following to date: 1 contract for site identification and scoping assistance	87,875,000.00	6,624,943.14	1,288,367.20	-
37	State Of Michigan Balanced Calendar Support Grants	2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other	For matching grants to districts for HVAC and other one-time infrastructure or equipment costs ne	75,000,000.00	3,385,460.00	369,017.01	-
38	State Of Michigan Lead Service Line Replacement - Detroit	5.12-Drinking water: Lead Remediation including	To be used for drinking water infrastructure improvements in Detroit	75,000,000.00	-	-	-
39	State Of Michigan Sewer Overflows	5.4-Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	Allocates \$72 million to be used for priority wastewater infrastructure projects to address combine	72,000,000.00	-	-	-
40	State Of Michigan Adult Foster Care Home for Aged Relatives	1.4-Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes)	The project is intended to provide aid to adult foster care and homes for the aged facilities in their	70,000,000.00	31,737,300.00	31,737,300.00	-
41	State Of Michigan Pump Station Back-up Generators	5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater	This project's primary goal is to provide backup power to stormwater pump stations along critical f	66,000,000.00	-	-	-
42	City Of Detroit, Michigan Skills for Life (Work) (09.1.001-2.10)	2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed	Detroiters continue to face economic hardships exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, includin	58,968,045.00	26,619,186.28	7,785,881.84	-
43	State Of Michigan Community Revitalization and Placemaking	2.31-Rehabilitation of Commercial Properties or	The Revitalization and Placemaking (RAP) Program and specifically this project promotes rehabili	56,700,000.00	296,934.98	296,934.98	-
44	State Of Michigan Missing Middle Gap Program	2.15-Long-Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing	New construction and rehabilitation of housing targeted towards and attainable to Missing Middle	50,000,000.00	-	-	-
45	Wayne County, Michigan SEMCA Workforce Development	2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed	Tiered program where partner organization will administer various programs to assist households	50,000,000.00	50,000,000.00	-	-
46	City Of Detroit, Michigan Program-wide Administrative Services	7.1-Administrative Expenses	Administrative costs associated with overseeing ARPA Program. This includes planning, program	48,550,564.00	41,081,148.63	15,665,542.68	-
47	State Of Michigan MI Housing Opportunities Promoting Employment	2.23-Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation	Funding to incentivize energy efficiency and health improvements for single or multi-family proper	45,000,000.00	-	-	-
48			JumpStart targets Detroit residents who are in need of job training or work experience and traditio	-	-	-	-
			This program design leverages grassroots nonprofit and advocacy organizations, and includes a c	-	-	-	-
			Individuals representing the grassroots organizations are referred to as resource navigators, who	-	-	-	-
			JumpStart targets Detroiters 18 or older who have been unemployed for at least 24 weeks. Partici	-	-	-	-

'Negative economic impacts'

Across Michigan, the largest share of federal funding – \$2.2 billion, has so far been earmarked for projects to address “negative economic impacts” of the pandemic on households, small businesses and nonprofits.

Of that, about \$1 billion has been “obligated” through the end of 2022, and \$716 million had been spent.

The plans include \$3.8 million for home improvements in Saginaw, \$8.6 million to provide Flint residents with a \$300 water bill credit — the equivalent of roughly three months of free water — and \$88 million for blight remediation in Detroit.

Guaranteed Basic Income

In Ann Arbor, city officials decided to use \$1.6 million of the city's \$24 million in fiscal recovery funding to create what will be the state's first guaranteed basic income program.

For two years, the city will provide 100 low-income families with a monthly \$500 check — no strings attached.

City Council member Linh Song proposed the pilot program last spring as she

Michigan slow to spend COVID funds

Michigan and its 68 largest communities (which report data quarterly) received a combined \$9.9 billion in federal recovery funds but are only beginning to spend that money. Here are the allocations and actual spending to date.

Search				
	Projects	Allocated	Spent	Percent
Michigan	53	\$6,540,417,627	\$1,690,089,866	25.8
Detroit	36	\$826,675,290	\$50,678,934	6.1
Wayne County	18	\$339,789,370	\$2,771,083	0.8
Oakland County	43	\$244,270,949	\$32,726,196	13.4
Macomb County	3	\$169,758,815	\$0	-
Kent County	14	\$127,605,807	\$4,481,281	3.5
Flint	10	\$94,726,664	\$15,797,846	16.7
Grand Rapids	15	\$92,279,500	\$19,532,495	21.2

Government jobs, premium pay and lost revenue

The state and local governments are so far planning to use a relatively small portion of their federal recovery funds to plug holes in their own budgets or staffs, including \$321 million already spent to make up for lost revenue, \$256 million earmarked to hire or retain employees and \$24 million to provide premium pay to workers who stayed on the job during the pandemic.

Genesee County was the largest spender on this front, using \$7 million to provide bonus pay to more than 1,000 government employees — an average of about \$6,500 per county worker.

County government offices closed “for a brief period of time” during the COVID-19 pandemic but quickly re-opened to serve the public, Genesee officials said in a federal spending report.

Employees who returned for in-person work were “an integral part” of keeping the county operational, developing COVID response plans, delivering meals to home-bound residents and helping schedule and administer vaccines, the county added.

“The on-site work of these positions were key to keep the county functioning during this timeframe and there were additional risks for these staff by being in-person in contact with others.”

Project 006: Premium Pay
Funding amount: \$7,000,000
Spent to date: \$6,689,544.59

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1 Public Sector Employees
Project overview

During the COVID pandemic, the County offices were closed only for a brief period of time. Once precautions were put in place to aid in social distancing, the offices were re-opened for in person work for staff and in person services for the public. The County staff were an integral part of allowing the County to function which included paying bills, purchasing activities, supervising staff, etc. They were actively involved in developing the COVID plan,

ensuring social distancing, and ensuring the safety of residents and staff. Senior and GCCARD staff aided in home delivered meals for homebound individuals. Courts staff ensured compliance with SCAO requirements. GIS maintained the COVID Dashboard. IT assisted the employees that were working remotely. The health department aided in deployment of vaccinations and coordinating clinics. The majority of departments assisted in making phone calls to schedule appointments for vaccinations. The on-site work of these positions were key to keep the county functioning during this timeframe and there were additional risks for these staff by being in person in contact with others.

Output Measures

- Number of people receiving premium pay – 1,068

Outcome Measures

- Individuals that were integral to keeping the County up and running and putting themselves at additional risk for in-person work during the pandemic were provided premium pay

Digging up lead pipes

Heading into 2023, the state of Michigan and its largest local governments had finalized plans to use a combined \$1.4 billion in federal recovery funding for infrastructure improvements, according to federal reports.

But only \$25 million had been spent.

Much of the money has been set aside for water infrastructure projects, including about \$1 billion the state budgeted for new drinking and clean water revolving funds that will be able to loan money to local governments for related projects.

The state also used \$92 million to help Detroit and Benton Harbor tear out and replace underground lead service lines.

Other communities including Bay City (\$6 million) are using their own federal funds to replace those pipes, as required by 2040 under a rule former Gov. Rick Snyder implemented in the wake of the Flint contamination crisis.

It's a huge undertaking: As of 2021, officials estimated there were still [more than 400,000 active lead water lines](#) in communities across the state, posing a potential risk to public health.

"You do tend to see people doing projects that maybe they were planning to do anyway, so they're just using this money to pay for a few miles of road or to fix some lead service lines," Scorsone said. "And that's good. They free up money for other things."



Public health and gun violence

The state and local governments had set aside \$788 million in federal recovery dollars for public health initiatives through the end of 2022, and spent about \$200 million of that.

Much of that money is intended for direct responses to the pandemic, including a combined \$139 million for equipment at nursing homes and other congregate settings. At least two communities -- Saginaw and Lenawee County -- used funding to incentivize government employees to get COVID-19 vaccines.

But local governments also plan to use the stimulus funds to address other public health issues exacerbated by the pandemic, including \$20 million for mental health efforts in Oakland County and nearly \$8 million for a gun violence reduction plan in Detroit.

Routinely ranked one of the most violent cities in the nation, Detroit plans to buy two new mobile police towers for community events, 75 new vehicle recognition cameras at high-crime intersections and 50 new vehicles for detectives to use during investigations.

The project aims to "reduce gun violence in the city by increasing surveillance capabilities and increasing resources to support fast response to incidents," Detroit said in [a recovery fund plan](#) filed with the federal government.

It's part of a larger effort to support "a resilient city with universally vibrant, safe, healthy and beautiful neighborhoods, providing equitable and inclusionary access to economic mobility and social prosperity," officials said.

Gun Violence Reduction Plan

Project Identification Number: 851403

Funding Amount: \$7,647,280

Project Expenditure Category: EC 1.1: Public Health – Community Violence Interventions

Project Overview

Detroit intends to use American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds to increase public safety through reducing gun violence in the city. The Gun Violence Reduction Plan will employ three strategies in the efforts of gun violence reduction:

- Mobile Towers. Purchase two mobile towers to monitor large crowds and have increased Detroit Police Department (DPD) presence during events. These towers are mobile and therefore can be used during any large community events to reduce gun violence.
- Vehicle Recognition Cameras. Expand Vehicle Recognition Cameras to 75 additional intersections in the highest violent crime areas. The planned intersections are detailed below.
- Investigative Vehicle Purchase. Purchase 50 investigative vehicles with gas and maintenance to allow detectives to respond to scenes, even while off-duty. This will serve any individual who is a victim of a crime. In addition, this will fund a three-year commitment of a Fleet Analyst, who will oversee all Department vehicles and their deployment throughout the City.

Planned Performance Outcomes

Detailed below are the strategic project's long-term goals, expected outputs and planned outcomes of the project aligned to a unified North Star vision for the City of Detroit's American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Program. The long-term goals guide the project's overall direction in alignment with the program's North Star. Near-term outcomes are accomplished during the period of performance, demonstrating program impacts of change while outputs provide project performance indicators to record actions.

Figure 20 shows the project's long-term goals, near-term outcomes, and outputs. Associated key performance indicators or outputs for the project are described in the Performance Reporting section.



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Michigan Government

No thanks: 45 conservative Michigan towns decline federal stimulus money



In the Upper Peninsula's Houghton County, officials in Franklin Township voted unanimously to decline \$146,431 in stimulus funding — and it wasn't a hard decision, Supervisor Mary Sears told Bridge Michigan.

"There's too many things you have to comply with in order to accept that money, and we don't need it," she said. "It's not like it's life and death for us, you know?"

The recalcitrance is rare in Michigan, as the vast majority of governments have welcomed the stimulus and called it a "[transformational](#)" opportunity to make long overdue improvements.

All told, the American Rescue Plan Act that President Joe Biden signed into law in March included roughly \$4.4

billion for Michigan local governments, along with another [\\$6.5 billion](#) for the state.

Thanks but no thanks

Forty-five small communities in Michigan either declined to accept COVID-19 federal funding or did not apply. Counties, cities, townships and villages across Michigan and the country were eligible for the American Rescue Plan Act money designed to ease the burden from the pandemic.

Search				
	County	Status	Eligible funding	Pop.
Redding Township	Clare	rejected	\$56,102	536
Village of Gaines	Genesee	rejected	\$37,471	358
Franklin Township	Houghton	rejected	\$146,431	1,399
Village of Port Hope	Huron	rejected	\$26,062	249
Broomfield Township	Isabella	rejected	\$141,617	1,353
Barton Township	Newaygo	rejected	\$85,305	815
Cedar Township	Osceola	rejected	\$47,624	455

Source: Michigan Department of Treasury

[Bridge](#)

— Mike Wilkinson

Northern Michigan township board considers giving selves bonuses with COVID relief funds

by Miya Ingle | Tue, September 14th 2021, 9:06 AM EDT



A Grand Traverse County Township is deciding how to spend its COVID relief funds from the federal government. (WPBN)



GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY, Mich. (WPBN/WGTU) -- A Grand Traverse County Township is deciding how to spend its COVID relief funds from the federal government.