# American Rescue Plan Act

**Talbot County Council Update** 



### CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

\$7,221,973

#### **May 2021**

First Traunch Received by Talbot County.

**December 31, 2024** 

Funds must be obligated by the end of the calendar year.

**December 31, 2026** 

Funds must be fully spent.

### Timeline for using ARPA Funds

FEDERAL TREASURY GUIDANCE

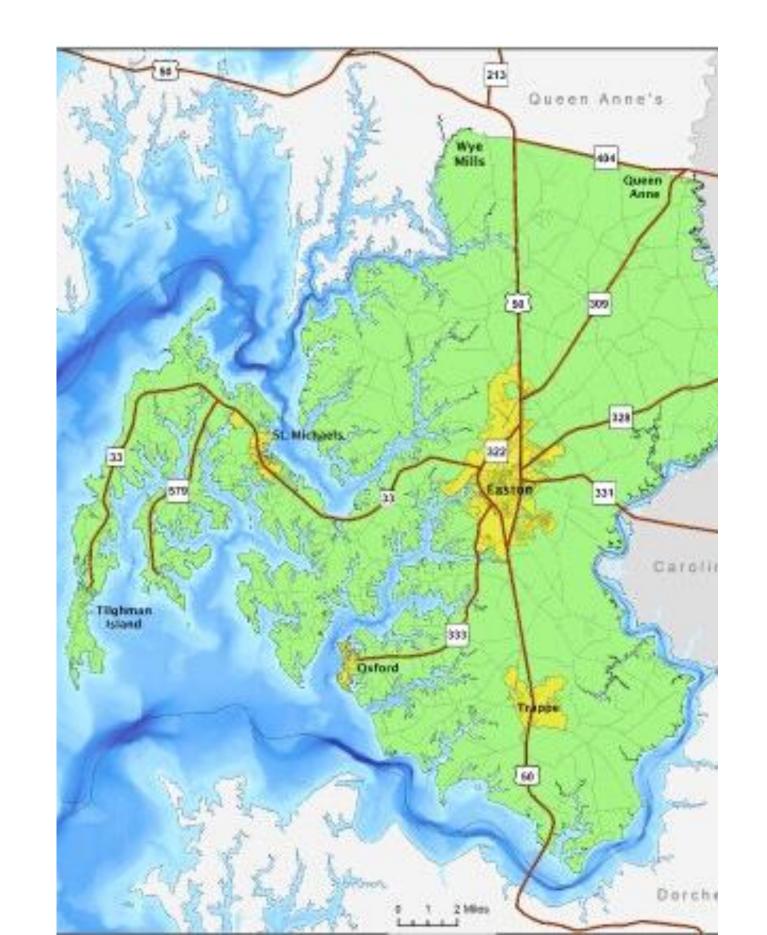
Talbot County Council Update

#### ARPA SURVEY RESULTS

### Survey Says...

634 PEOPLE RESPONDED WHEN ASKED HOW TALBOT COUNTY SHOULD INVEST IT'S ARPA FUNDS

52% of the respondents were from Easton, with responses coming from every corner of Talbot County



#### **#1** Infrastructure

Expansion of broadband for education, remote work, and telehealth.

#### #2 Public Health

"We have learned from the pandemic that public health is vital."

#### **#3** Assistance to Households

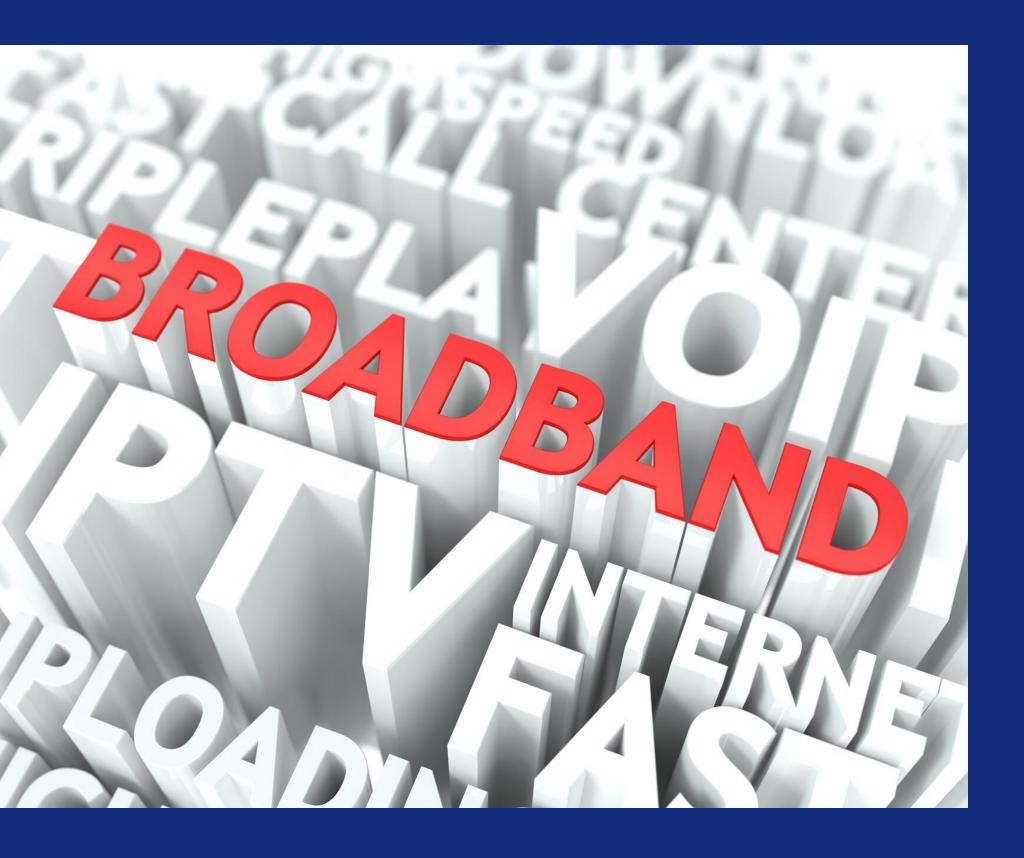
"People should always be first when considering such issues."

# Of the six categories, these ranked the highest.

### ARPA FUNDS APPROVED IN 2022 \$4,758,439.96



# INVESTMENTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE



45% of those answering the survey ranked expansion of broadband as the top priority

### \$1.75 million

### Continuing Broadband Expansion to the Unserved and Underserved

#### Connect Talbot

 More than 225 miles of construction completed.

1,750 locations have broadband access;
 920 customers have been connected.

• When complete, a total of 4,400 Talbot County locations will have access to broadband.



### \$105,000

### Improvements to failing septic system at Chesapeake Center

Status: Completed August 2022

Total Cost: \$100,961

# INVESTMENTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

\$500,000

#### **Talbot County Fire Company Grant Fund**

Seven local fire companies eligible for funding.

#### **Distribution Summary**

- A total of \$65,772.73 distributed from original allocation for foam disposal and resupply expenses.
- Easton, St. Michaels, Oxford, Trappe, Cordova and Tilghman received equal amounts of the balance at \$68,562.20 each and Queen Anne/Hillsboro received 1/3 at \$22,854.07.
- Three fire companies have spent their full allocation.
   One has partially spent its funding.

#### Fire Company Guidelines

#### **Approved Uses**

- Non-expendable Equipment tangible property having a useful life of more than one year (e.g. radios, turnout gear, tools)
- Purchase of emergency vehicles and support equipment

#### **Prohibited Uses**

- Taxes, insurance, personnel costs
- Financial salaries or incentives for members
- Training and travel expenses
- Administrative costs including rent, telephone, utilities, security services

#### **Approved Expenditures**

- Easton: Custom Sutphen Engine Tanker
- St. Michaels: 2023 E-One Cyclone Custom Pumper
- Queen Anne/Hillsboro: Payments for the purchase of four sets of turnout gear and 22 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Air Packs
- Tilghman: Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) and Cargo Trailer for the UTV

\$300,000

### Funding for additional EMS Unit for Talbot County Emergency Services

Status: Ambulance ordered.

### \$1 million

### Partial funding for an EMS Station/Back Up 911 Center in North County

Status: Project underway.

# INVESTMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

### \$150,000

### Replenishing the shelves of Talbot County Food Banks

Status: \$10,700/pantry distributed in FY23 for a total of \$74,900. Equal amount to be distributed in FY 24.

### **Talbot County Food Pantries**

- Carepacks
- Harvest of Hope at Easton Church of God
- Neighborhood Service Center
- Royal Oak United Methodist Church
- St. Michaels Community Center
- St. Mark's United Methodist Church (Pantry at Brookletts Place)
- St. Vincent de Paul

#### Food Bank Guidelines

#### **Qualifying Expenditures**

- Purchase of food.
- Purchase of consumable supplies used specifically for the food distribution program (ie. bags, boxes, food containers, cleaning supplies.
- Purchase of refrigerator, freezer, shelving, or other equipment costing that is necessary for the pantry's food distribution activity.
- Emergency repair costs for equipment or vehicle that is necessary for pantry's food distribution operation.
- Must be expenses not already supported by COVID-19 relief or other grant funds.

### \$250,000

#### **Funding for Nonprofit Grant Fund**

Preference given to those with projects that help those in need.

### Nonprofit Program Summary

- Nearly 60 nonprofits submitted requests for funding, asking for approximately \$1.2 million.
- 16 Local nonprofits were selected to receive the available \$250,000 allocation.
- All approved requests were funded at 75%.
- Seven nonprofits have spent their full allocation. Two have partially spent their funding.

### Projects Funded

- Sewer line installation at low-income housing project
- Purchase of cargo van for food distribution
- Staffing expenses and training
- Community art project

\$50,000

### Improved Sound System at Talbot County Free Library

Status: Installation nearing completion.

Funds spent to date: \$0

### TALBOT COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### \$160,000

#### **Talbot County IT Cybersecurity Project**

Funds spent to date: \$65,718

### \$10,000

#### Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center Call Center

Status: Project complete.

Funds spent to date: \$12,323

### \$235,000

#### **Administrative Costs Including Staff**

Funds spent to date: \$39,301

### \$250,000

#### Doverbrook Apartment Project

Approved by Council in Nov. 2022 for the replacement of 50 existing and 14 new affordable housing units; Easton matching at \$250,000.

### ARPA FUNDS APPROVED \$4,758,739.96

# ARPA FUNDS SPENT \$2,456,616.20

# ARPA BALANCE REMAINING \$2,463,533.04

### Talbot County's ARPA Working Group

Pete Lesher Clay Stamp Jessica Morris Martha Sparks Kaitlin Foster-Clark Mary Kay Verdery Nancy Andrew Ray Clarke Cassandra Vanhooser

### QUESTIONS?