



Guilford County ARPA Community Engagement Video Transcript | English

Guilford County has been awarded over \$104 million to aid in COVID-19 recovery efforts.

This funding is part of the U.S. Department of the Treasury's American Rescue Plan Act (also known as ARPA).

As Guilford County residents, this \$104 million is your money to spend on your community.

But before getting your feedback, it's important that you understand what we can use the funds for.

Guilford County can use ARPA funds to:

- Address Negative Economic Impacts
- Support the Public Health Response
- Provide Premium Pay for Essential Workers
- Improve Water and Sewer Infrastructure
- Improve Broadband Infrastructure

Let's go over each of these in a little more detail.

Address Negative Economic Impacts

Guilford County can use ARPA funds to address negative economic impacts to:

- workers,
- families,
- small businesses,
- nonprofits,
- or other affected industries.

We can also re-hire public sector workers.

Public Health Response

To support the public health response to COVID-19, Guilford County can

- Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, such as contact tracing and vaccination programs
- Cover medical expenses and mental health treatment for those affected by COVID-19, and
- Pay for certain public health and safety staff.

Providing Premium Pay for Essential Workers

Essential workers have been providing crucial care and services throughout the pandemic. This has been at the risk of their health and the health of their families. Guilford County can use ARPA funds to offer monetary support to these essential workers. We can distribute this money retroactively back to January 27, 2020.

Water and Sewer Infrastructure

Guilford County can also improve water and sewer infrastructure. This could include:

- making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, or
- improving or expanding wastewater and stormwater infrastructure to communities with limited or no service.

Broadband Infrastructure

Finally, Guilford County can use the ARPA funds to Improve Broadband Infrastructure. We would focus on providing underserved locations with new or expanded broadband access.

We want to invest these funds in projects that center community voices in decision-making. Our goal is to:

- Build on a foundation of existing County and regional efforts
- Maximize funding by combining efforts with other projects and sources of funding.
- Focus on sustainability with one-time uses or by establishing a path to sustainability.

The ARPA funding is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to invest in the future of Guilford County.

How would you use \$104 million to support Guilford communities?