



# Guilford County ARPA Community Engagement Phase 2: Visioning | Handout

Interactive Website and Survey Live from December 1 - 31, 2021

## What is your vision for Guilford County?

Guilford County has been awarded \$104 million in federal funding. This funding is part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

We need your help in deciding how to allocate the funds! Our primary goal is to support residents affected by COVID-19. This is also a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to invest in the county's future. Your voice is important in creating a vision for Guilford County.

## What can the funds be used for?

### Addressing Negative Economic Impacts

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

- workers
- families
- small businesses
- nonprofits
- 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.
- 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.
- improving or expanding wastewater and stormwater infrastructure to communities with limited or no service.



### Broadband Infrastructure

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.



# ARPA Ineligible Uses



## RAINY DAY

Deposits to Rainy Day funds or financial services. This is because these would create savings rather than respond to pandemic recovery needs.



## GENERAL

General infrastructure spending outside of those in the eligible uses.



## PENSION

Deposits into defined pension funds unless they are for employees whose wages are an eligible use.



## LEGAL

Legal settlements or judgements except for any services responding to the public health emergency.



## DEBT SERVICE

Funds cannot be used to pay debt incurred before March 3, 2021.



## MATCHING

Non-federal matching funds for federal programs.

# Project Schedule

SEPT. 2021



## Phase 1: Listening

- Community Conversations
- Listening Survey

## Phase 2: Visioning

- Interactive Website
- Visioning Survey
- Community Meetings

FEB. 2022



## Phase 3: Prioritizing

- Interactive Website
- Prioritization Survey
- Community Meetings

## Phase 4: Recommending

- Commissioner Meeting
- Final Recommendations Report



DEC. 2022



MAR. 2022

## Contact Information:

Sara Pilling, Budget and Management Analyst, Guilford County Government  
spilling@guilfordcountync.gov or (336) 641-3275



# Guilford County ARPA Funding Community Engagement Phase 2: Visioning Survey

The purpose of this survey is to gather input from Guilford County residents on their vision for the \$104 million ARPA funding. Your responses are voluntary and will be kept confidential.

## Survey Questions

\*Please return by Dec. 31, 2021 (instructions on pg. 5)

**Question 1:** Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on individuals, businesses, and/or landlords

**FOR RESIDENTS:** To what extent have the following been problems for you/your household at any time during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Category	Major Problem	Moderate Problem	Minor Problem	Not a Problem	Don't know
Loss of employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduction in household income	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Making rent or mortgage payments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paying utility bills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lacking technology needed to communicate with others remotely	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lacking technology to work and/or attend school remotely	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of childcare or child supervision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to reliable transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to medical services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to mental health services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**FOR BUSINESS OWNERS:** Which of the following have you experienced as a business-owner at any time during the COVID-19 pandemic? *(Select all that apply.)*

- Permanent business closure
- Temporary business closure (have reopened or plan to reopen)
- Revenue loss
- Increased costs
- Difficulty hiring or retaining employees
- Other (please specify)

I have not experienced any of these

# Survey Questions

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## Question 2: Current assistance needs

**Are you/your household in immediate need of any of the following types of assistance?** (Select all that apply)

- Food assistance
- Rent or mortgage assistance
- Emergency shelter
- Unemployment benefits
- Utility assistance
- Emergency Childcare services
- Physical health services
- Mental health services
- Other (please specify)

\_\_\_\_\_

I do not need immediate assistance

## Question 3: General priorities for ARPA funding

**The American Rescue Plan requires that Guilford County invest in programs or services that fall within the general categories listed below. Please rank these categories in order of priority to you, from highest to lowest.**

(1 = the highest priority, 5 = the lowest priority)

\_\_\_\_\_ Services for households impacted by COVID-19

\_\_\_\_\_ Services for small businesses impacted by COVID-19

\_\_\_\_\_ Continued hazard pay for essential workers

\_\_\_\_\_ Investment in water and sewer infrastructure

\_\_\_\_\_ Investment in broadband internet infrastructure

## Question 4: Open-ended call for ideas

**Is there a specific goal that you would like Guilford County to consider when deciding how to spend the ARPA funds?** (See eligible uses on page 1.)

**Do you have an idea for how to invest the funds that is not included in this survey? Tell us about it!** (See eligible uses on page 1.)

**Would you like to be notified about Guilford County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding updates and opportunities to provide feedback?** Please provide your email address below.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**For more info, visit the project website:**  
<https://bit.ly/GuilfordCountyARPA>

**Complete this survey online by visiting:**  
<https://www.publicinput.com/ARPA3>

# Voluntary Demographic Questions

The following questions ask about you and your background. This information helps us work toward our goal of inclusive engagement.

**Please note that your responses will be used solely for data collection, will remain CONFIDENTIAL, and are OPTIONAL.**

## Questions

**Do you live, work, and/or own property in Guilford County?**

- Yes
- No

**What is your home zip code?**

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**Do you have a disability?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

**What is your gender identity?**

- Man
- Woman
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to answer

**What is your age?**

- Younger than 18
- 18-29
- 30-44
- 45-64
- 65 and older
- Prefer not to answer

**Which of the following best describes you? (Choose all that apply)**

- Asian or Pacific Islander
  - Black or African American
  - Hispanic or Latino
  - Native American or Alaskan Native
  - White or Caucasian
  - Prefer not to answer
  - Other (please specify)
- 

**What is your approximate annual household income?**

- Less than \$12,000
- \$12,000 – \$19,999
- \$20,000 – \$30,999
- \$31,000 – \$46,999
- \$47,000 – \$69,999
- \$70,000 – \$93,999
- \$94,000 – \$117,999
- \$118,000 or greater
- Prefer not to answer

**How well do you speak English?**

- Very well
- Well
- Okay
- Very Little
- Not at all
- Prefer not to answer

**What language do you speak at home most of the time?**

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**Please return by December 31, 2021 through one of the following ways:**

- **Email a scanned copy or picture** of each page to: [info@pppconsulting.net](mailto:info@pppconsulting.net)
- **Mail to:** Public Participation Partners, 8410 Falls of Neuse Rd, Ste. B, Raleigh, NC 27615

**Thank you for your input!**

**For more info, visit the project website:**  
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